

24417

Public Health

"SALUS POPULI SUPREMA LEX"



CITY OF PORTSMOUTH

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year 1951

including

THE REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ANALYST

GROSVENOR PRESS
PORTSMOUTH

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The Right Worshipful the Lord Mayor

ALDERMAN ALBERT JOHNSON, J.P.

HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE

1951-1952

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Vice-Chairman

ALDERMAN H. G. COOK

Aldermen

J. DAVIDSON ; ALBERT JOHNSON, J.P. (Lord Mayor)

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T. M. HELLIWELL
A. H. SHAW
C. W. STEVENS
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J. T. TRIGGS

V. E. ELLIOTT
L. J. EVANS
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W. STUDD
D. GAMMANS

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MRS. C. E. ATKINS, J.P.
MRS. D. BOWLES
DR. H. K. CHILDS
DR. G. H. DUTHIE

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MISS E. H. KELLY, C.B.E., J.P.
MR. R. E. MORGAN
MRS. L. C. NICHOLSON
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1951-1952

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Vice-Chairman

COUNCILLOR A. W. WEST

Aldermen

W. CLEMENTS
J. DAVIDSON

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E. W. MARRIOTT
MRS. A. E. M. OLIVER, M.B.E.
W. STUDD
F. A. HARVEY

The following ladies were co-opted to serve on the Committee
for housing purposes :

MRS. E. L. NICHOLLS ; MRS. A. E. FERGUSON-BAKER ; MRS. M. A. BROOKS

SENIOR MEMBERS OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

*Medical Officer of Health,
School Medical Officer,
Chief Administrative Medical Officer to the City Council and
Medical Officer of Health to the Port of Portsmouth*

T. E. ROBERTS, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Deputy School Medical Officer

R. WOODROW, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

*Senior Assistant Medical Officer of Health for Maternity and
Child Welfare*

RUBY N. E. PIKE, M.B., CH.B.

Vaccination and Immunisation Medical Officer

G. E. SHAND, M.D., CH.B., D.P.H.

*Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant Maternity and
Child Welfare Officer*

MARGARET N. SMITH, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Veterinary Officer

R. SCOULAR, M.R.C.V.S.

Chief Sanitary Inspector

W. F. APPLETON, M.R.San I., F.S.I.A.

Administrative Assistant

H. S. WOODCOCK

Superintendent Health Visitor

MISS D. M. POULSON, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Supervisor of Midwives

MISS D. J. KINSEY, S.R.N., S.C.M., M.T.D.

Supervisory Matron of Day Nurseries

MISS M. MURDEN, S.R.N., S.R.F.N.

Joint Appointments with Regional Hospital Board

Consultant Chest Physician

J. H. DADDS, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.P.

Chest Physician

A. M. READ, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (from March)



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Public Health Department,
Municipal Offices,
1 Western Parade,
Portsmouth.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Health Services Committee, and to the
Chairman and Members of the Health and Housing Committee.*

My Lord Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health of the City for 1951, which at the request of the Ministry of Health is similar in form to those of recent years.

Figures in brackets represent the corresponding numbers or percentages for the previous year.

HEALTH STATISTICS

(Pages 22-25)

The Registrar-General's return for the year 1951 reveals an increase of 4,380 in the total population (including Service personnel), which is now estimated to be 244,400. Although by the end of the year some 6,190 post-war properties were let, including requisitioned premises, an alarming amount of overcrowding still exists; indeed, there were then 12,337 applicants on the list for re-housing, the majority of whom were living in overcrowded conditions. This overcrowding is an important factor in the continued high incidence of such diseases as tuberculosis.

As will be seen from Table I on page 23, the following are the main features of interest for the year under review.

1. A further decrease in the birth rate from 15.22 in 1950 to 15.05 per thousand population (the lowest since 1939), compared with 15.5 for England and Wales in 1951.

2. An increase in the maternity mortality rate from 0.53 per thousand total births in 1950 (the lowest ever recorded) to 0.80, compared with 0.79 for England and Wales.

3. A decrease in the neo-natal mortality rate from 18.07 per thousand live births in 1950 to 17.68, compared with 18.8 for England and Wales.

4. A decrease in the infant mortality rate from 29.84 per thousand live births in 1950 to 29.64, compared with 29.6 for England and Wales.

5. An increase in the general death rate from 10.92 per thousand population in 1950 (the lowest ever recorded) to 11.87, compared with 12.5 for England and Wales,

6. An increase in the death rate from the principal infectious diseases from 0.05 per thousand population in 1950 (the lowest ever recorded) to 0.06.

7. A decrease in the death rate from all forms of tuberculosis from 0.39 per thousand population in 1950 to 0.27 (the lowest ever recorded), compared with 0.31 for England and Wales.

8. An increase in the death rate from cancer (including leukaemia) from 1.95 per thousand population in 1950 to 2.09, compared with 1.96 for England and Wales.

Detailed consideration of the statistical summaries for 1951 and the various tables included in that section of the Report (pages 22–25) reveals many features of interest, and confirms with certainty that during the past five years the vital statistics relative to the health of Portsmouth citizens have been exceptionally favourable.

From Tables II and III it will be seen that in 1947 the birth rate reached its post-war peak of 24.29 per thousand population—the highest figure since 1920, when World War I had just ended. In each subsequent year there has been a decrease, so that the latest figure of 15.05 per thousand population now corresponds closely with the average for the pre-war years of 1933–39. In 1948 the infant mortality rate of 23.28 per thousand live births was the lowest hitherto recorded; although there has since been some increase in this rate, the present figure is still a satisfactory one; indeed, the rates for the past four years together represent the lowest levels ever reached:—1948—23.28, 1949—24.54, 1950—29.84, and 1951—29.64 per thousand live births. In 1950 the general death rate—10.92 per thousand population, the death rate from the principal infectious diseases—0.05 per thousand population, and the maternal mortality rate—0.52 per thousand total births, were the lowest ever recorded in Portsmouth.

Although in 1951 there was some increase in the maternal mortality rate, due to one additional death having occurred during the year under review, the present figure is still amongst the lowest recorded. It is also most encouraging to report that the death rate from all forms of tuberculosis—0.27 per thousand population, the lowest ever recorded, was for the first time in Portsmouth less than the average for England and Wales generally (0.31), and was, indeed, the second lowest mortality rate for the twenty large towns of England and Wales. Table III shows clearly that Portsmouth occupies a high position so far as health is concerned among the twenty large towns of England and Wales, the adjusted death rate for 1951 being the fourth lowest, the tuberculosis death rate second, the infant mortality rate fifth, and the maternal mortality rate seventh.

NUTRITION

There are no statistics available on this subject except for the school child, and in respect of this group the report of the School Medical Officer shows that the satisfactory state of nutrition was fully maintained during 1951.

Most people are still able to supplement their diet by having meals out or purchasing unrationed foods, although the rising cost of living must necessarily limit the number who are able to keep up their standard of nutrition in this way.

METEOROLOGY

A comparison of the 1951 meteorological statistics with those of the previous year shows two noteworthy features—(a) an increase of 61.4 hours in the amount of sunshine recorded to 1815.7 hours and (b) an increase of 12.06 ins. (nearly 50%) in the rainfall to 39.17 ins.—the highest registered since records were first kept in 1890 (the averages for the last ten years are : sunshine 1775.3 hours and rainfall 27.89 ins.). These two factors apart, the weather for 1951 was much the same as that of the previous year.

During the year there was half-hour or more of sun on 287 days, and .01 ins. or more of rain fell on 181 days. It is interesting to note that, despite having had so much more rain, the City advanced from 19th to 14th place in the sunshine table of the 290 meteorological stations in the British Isles, and as far as genuine holiday resorts on the mainland were concerned Portsmouth and Southsea was 7th.

Generally speaking, the climate of Portsmouth and Southsea is both healthy and agreeable, the winters being comparatively mild and the sea breezes sufficiently bracing to obviate excessive heat in summer. The City is sheltered to a large extent by the Isle of Wight on the south and by Portsdown Hill on the north, as a result of which it is reasonably free from strong winds and storms of any intensity.

CITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN

In accordance with the requirements of Section 5 of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, all Committees were requested by Council Minute No. 1563/48 to submit to the Development and Estates Committee by the end of March, 1949, details of any land they desired to acquire to carry out their future programme for incorporation in the City Draft Development Plan, and recommendations were accordingly made to the Health Services Committee before that date on the reservation of sites for health centres, day nurseries, ambulance depots, etc. The Development and Estates Committee duly considered these requirements and prepared a Development Plan; later the Health Services Committee was asked to confirm that its wishes had been met and to prepare a programme giving dates when it was hoped its proposals could be carried out, together with the approximate cost thereof.

As a result of further consideration, both as to the urgency of each scheme and the financial considerations involved, the Health Services Committee has now recommended that, in the five-year period commencing 1st April, 1953, day nurseries should be provided in the Milton and Farlington areas, a health centre should be established at Paulsgrove, endeavour should be made to provide a new ambulance station on the Eastern Road, and an occupation centre for mental defectives should be built.

Provision of additional day nurseries and health centres, both principal and subsidiary, has been included in the recommendations for development in the fifteen-year period commencing 1st April, 1958. The programme approved by the Health Services Committee is given below :—

(a) FIVE YEARS COMMENCING 1ST APRIL, 1953

<i>Scheme</i>	<i>Suggested Year</i>
Milton Day Nursery	1953/54
Ambulance Station, Eastern Road	1954/55
Occupation Centre for Mental Defectives	1955/56
Health Centre, Paulsgrove	1955/56/57
Farlington Day Nursery	1957/58

(b) FIFTEEN YEARS COMMENCING 1ST APRIL, 1958

<i>Scheme</i>	<i>Scheme</i>
PRINCIPAL HEALTH CENTRES	DAY NURSERIES
Central and Southern Area	Southsea
North Portsea	North End
Cosham	Copnor
	Paulsgrove
SUBSIDIARY HEALTH CENTRES	
Southsea	AMBULANCE STATION
Milton	Southampton Road, Paulsgrove
Copnor	
Farlington	

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946

Details have been given in previous Reports of the changes which took place in the administration of the health services and of the responsibilities devolving upon the local health authority when this Act came into operation on the 5th July, 1948, in accordance with the proposals submitted to the Minister in 1947–1948, and subsequent developments are referred to in each of the following sections :—

(1) SECTION 21 (HEALTH CENTRES)

No further progress has been made regarding the provision of health centres, either at Paulsgrove or elsewhere, but in the City Development Plan the erection of a health centre at Paulsgrove in 1955–57 is included in the programme for the first five years ; during the fifteen-year period commencing 1st April, 1958, it is hoped to provide three principal health centres—for the Central and Southern, North Portsea, and Cosham areas respectively, and subsidiary health centres at Southsea, Milton, Copnor and Farlington. The former Civil Defence first aid post at St. George's Square, Portsea, has now been adapted as a combined maternity and child welfare centre and branch school clinic, and was opened in September, 1951, thus providing greatly improved facilities for this area of the City.

(2) SECTION 22 (CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN)**SECTION 23 (MIDWIFERY)****SECTION 24 (HEALTH VISITING)**

(Pages 28–35)

The birth rate appears to have reached its post-war level, the figure for last year being 15.05 per thousand population, compared with 15.22 in 1950. The total live births in 1951 numbered 3,677, a decrease of 24 compared with 3,653 last year, and 5,149 in 1947, when the highest birth rate since 1920 was recorded.

The proportion of institutional confinements remained at the high level of 59.17 per cent of the total number of births. Thus, confinements in the maternity section of Saint Mary's Hospital and its annexes numbered 2,216, compared with 1,174 delivered by the municipal midwives. The preference of expectant mothers for hospital maternity beds continues. As previously, on investigation, the causes were found to be mainly housing and financial difficulties. It is hoped that the hospital authorities will make a marked effort to discontinue to discharge mothers before the fourteenth day after confinement. The disadvantages of early discharge are seen on the district, notably in the decline in the number of breast-fed babies.

In spite of the large number of institutional confinements, there was an increase in the cases attended by municipal midwives—1,174, compared with 1,139 in the previous year, and 1,710 in 1947. The first figure is equivalent to an average of 79.9 (70.2) cases delivered annually by each midwife, the total number of whom employed during the year averaged eighteen.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

The maternal death rate increased from 0.53 to 0.80 per thousand births in 1951. This represents a total of three deaths in respect of which pregnancy was considered to be the primary cause, compared with two in 1950 and four in 1949. Only two of these maternal deaths occurred in the City, the other being a transfer from another area.

As will be seen from a study of the table on page 32, the number of attendances at the eight ante- and post-natal clinics held weekly at Saint Mary's Hospital—28,821—showed a decrease of 1,194. The number of attendances at the eight municipal ante- and post-natal clinics, however, increased to 10,388, compared with 10,038 in 1950. It is interesting to note that the number of patients attending ante-natal clinics represented 91.2% of the women confined during the year.

INFANT MORTALITY

It is pleasing to be able to record a slight decrease in the infant mortality rate—29.64—as compared with 29.84 in 1950. The actual number of infant deaths was the same in both years, viz : 109. An analysis of this figure, given on page 34, shows that much remains to be done in saving the lives of infants in their first four weeks of life. Close liaison continues to be maintained between the paediatric department of Saint Mary's Hospital and the Public Health Department.

DAY NURSERIES

The adaptations to the hut adjoining Cliffdale nursery were completed during the year, and the building (now to be known as Portsdown Hill Day Nursery) was opened to receive children on 15th October, 1951. Places are provided for 30 toddlers at this nursery. The total number of children who can be accommodated in the City's nurseries is now 246.

In the City Development plan it has been recommended that during the five-year period 1953–58 efforts be made to provide a day nursery in the Milton area during 1953–54 and another nursery at Farlington in 1957–58.

277 children were admitted to day nurseries in 1951 ; some of these admissions were of a temporary nature, made to assist in cases where mothers were unable to care for the children on account of confinement, etc. At the end of the year there were 337 children on the waiting list for admission to a nursery.

Routine medical examinations of all day nursery children, including immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough, are still regularly carried out by the medical officers of the Health Department.

Eleven student nurses entered for the examination of the National Nursery Examination Board, and nine were successful in securing their certificates.

NURSERIES AND CHILD MINDERS REGULATION ACT, 1948

Two premises, providing accommodation for 55 children, were visited, inspected and registered under the Nurseries and Child Minders Regulation Act, 1948. At the end of 1951 there were in all thirteen premises registered under this Act providing private day nursery accommodation, the total number of places being 281.

One daily minder was registered to receive six children.

HEALTH VISITING

The number of health visitors employed during the year was 20. The total number of visits paid to children under five years was 54,843, compared with 47,423 in the previous year. In addition to their normal child welfare visiting, the health visitors undertook a number of special visits in connection with the welfare of old people, admissions to convalescent homes, etc. The health visitor training course continues at Southampton University, and is proving very helpful in maintaining the complement of health visitors.

(3) SECTION 25 (HOME NURSING) (page 36)

Arrangements were made for the Portsmouth Victoria Nursing Association, which for a number of years had provided a very efficient service of home nursing for the area, to continue this service after the "appointed day", under the general control of the local health authority. As will be seen from the report of the Secretary (page 36), an average of 35 (31) nurses were employed, 18 (17) at Radnor House and 17 (14) at Beddow House, the total number of cases attended being 5,886 (4,634), and visits paid 96,932 (84,829). Under the new regime cordial relations continue between the Health Department and the nursing superintendents, so that the standard of work has been fully maintained.

Nursing equipment is supplied on loan to patients from a stock held by the Victoria Nursing Association; this is additional to that issued from the medical loan depots of the St. John Ambulance Brigade and British Red Cross Society.

(4) SECTION 26 (VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION) (pages 37-39)

The stimulus to vaccination provided by the Brighton smallpox outbreak of 1950/51 continued into the earlier months of the year under review, and is reflected in the great increase in the total vaccinations performed—8,467, compared with 3,757 in 1950—of which no less than 5,133 (1,258) were done at the Authority's clinics. The proportion of infants vaccinated during their first year of life, however, shows a slight decrease—1,158 vaccinations or 31.4% of the total births, compared with 1,204 or 33% in the previous year. Thus, the decline since the repeal of the Vaccination Acts in 1948 in the percentage of children under five who are protected by vaccination has continued.

Leading medical opinion is becoming increasingly worried about the low vaccinal state of the country as a whole, and means are being sought to overcome this—particularly by propaganda and education; some medical opinion considers vaccination should be obligatory in infancy and repeated again during school life. The value of vaccination to the individual vaccinated and to the community can hardly be stressed too much.

The diphtheria immunisation effort has continued unabated and the total number immunised shows a substantial increase—8,740, compared with 7,184 in 1950. The proportion of school children protected has now reached the highly satisfactory figure of 97.5%, but that for "under-fives" shows a further decline from 59.3% to 56.1%.

(5) SECTION 27 (AMBULANCE SERVICE) (Pages 40–41)

The upward trend of demand on ambulance transport mentioned in the last Report has continued, although this was not so marked in 1951 as it has been in previous years. The increase was due mainly to extensions to hospitals and the acquisition of Queen Alexandra Hospital by the Portsmouth Group Hospital Management Committee. The percentage increase was 6.7 over the previous year.

The vehicle replacement programme authorised in 1948 continued during the year, and two new ambulances were received. It is pleasing to note that, with one exception, all vehicles in the ambulance fleet are now post-war models; this has undoubtedly been a contributory factor in the small number of mechanical breakdowns recorded, even these being mostly of a minor nature.

(6) SECTION 28 (PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE)

This Section, as its title implies, authorises the local health authority, with the approval of the Minister, to provide a comprehensive service for the improvement of public health in its area. This provision is permissive unless the Minister otherwise directs, and up to the present such directions have been given in respect of tuberculosis alone.

The proposals submitted to and approved by the Ministry of Health provided for the full utilisation of the facilities of the Mass Radiography Unit in the diagnosis of chest diseases, the supply of milk to tuberculous patients, and the development of occupational therapy and rehabilitation in co-operation with the Tuberculosis Voluntary Care Committee. The system of domiciliary visiting has been extended by the appointment of tuberculosis visitors. Towards the end of 1949 a scheme was approved under this Section of the Act for vaccination against tuberculosis by B.C.G., a method of which we had already some experience, as this preventive measure was commenced locally in 1946.

TUBERCULOSIS (pages 42–44).

Perhaps the most outstanding feature in the statistics of the year under review was the remarkable decline in the total deaths from all forms of tuberculosis, which numbered only 66, as compared with 95 in the previous year and 107 in 1949. This is by far the lowest number of deaths from this disease ever recorded in Portsmouth; indeed, for the first time the tuberculosis death rate—0.27 per thousand population—was well below the average for England and Wales (0.31), and second lowest of the twenty large towns of England and Wales (Table III, page 25). Deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis numbered 60 (87) and from non-pulmonary tuberculosis 6 (8), giving corrected death rates of 0.25 (0.36) and 0.02 (0.03) per thousand population respectively; as recently as 1943 and 1944 the death rate from pulmonary tuberculosis was nearly four times as great.

In his most interesting report (pages 42–44), the Consultant Chest Physician, Dr. Dadds, attributes the rapid decline in recent years in the deaths from this disease to the extended use of the new antibiotics—particularly streptomycin. He also very rightly stresses the need for greater efforts in the search for undetected cases—that reservoir of infection (the “Unknown Infector Pool”), comprising persons, who from ignorance or wilfulness neglect to seek early treatment and, mixing freely with others, infect their victims within the community and at home.

There has been no change in the administration of the Chest Clinic, but the service has been improved considerably—40 more beds have been taken over at the Infectious Diseases Hospital, thus greatly reducing the waiting time for admission, and a new X-ray Department was opened in April at the Chest Clinic, which will be of the greatest value to the clinicians and a boon to the patients as they can now be X-rayed at the time of examination. There has also been an increase in the number of contacts examined and in the number of children “at risk” who have had B.C.G. inoculation. The other aids to the comfort and decrease in mental worry for patients suffering from tuberculosis, i.e., free milk, home helps, etc., have been continued, as has also the very sympathetic consideration given by the Health and Housing Committee to their housing problems. There can also be nothing but praise for the Voluntary Care Committee, which continues to function in its usual sympathetic and efficient way.

The future holds out a very promising picture, but it will require the utmost endeavour from the whole team battling against this disease—particularly in the tracing of new cases and in further educating those individuals, now fortunately few, who are afraid to seek advice. The Ministry of Education have recently taken a firm line in the protection of school children against tuberculosis, and have issued regulations whereby, after April, 1953, all new entrants to the teaching profession and to teaching posts must have evidence of a satisfactory chest X-ray before commencing duty; arrangements are now being concluded to put this into practice locally. It is also hoped that greater liaison with the School Health Service will help in tracing more contacts.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY (pages 45–50).

During the year, the Mass Radiography Unit operated in the City, with the exception of thirteen weeks, when surveys were made at Chichester, Gosport, Fareham, the Isle of Wight and Horsham High School. The Unit was returned to the makers for a month during 1951 for “modernisation”.

Public sessions were again very popular, 4,104 persons being X-rayed during the fortnight devoted to this work. An innovation was tried—that of booking appointments for these public sessions, and this proved very successful, both from the patients’ and staff point of view. It is hoped to develop this appointments system further in future years. General practitioners referred no less than 1,538 persons for investigation at the Unit, and other specialist work undertaken included X-ray of ante-natal clinic cases, hospital staffs, police force entrants and follow-up examinations.

A total of 37,347 examinations was carried out during the year, including 23,151 in Portsmouth, of whom 1,497 or 6.4% (6.2%) showed evidence of pulmonary tuberculosis (Table 2). Of this number 87 (3.8 per 1,000 examined) were found to have *active* pulmonary tuberculosis (Table 3). This is a decrease on the figure for last year—5.6 per thousand examined, the decrease being most marked in the “Under 15” age group (Table 4).

Dr. Lendrum in his interesting and most comprehensive report on pages 45–50 emphasises the importance of encouraging general practitioners to send their patients to the Unit for X-ray, and also the necessity of careful follow-up of cases and contacts.

VENEREAL DISEASE (page 51)

The general downward trend in the incidence of these diseases has continued, although the reduction in the number of cases of gonorrhoea compared with 1950 is comparatively small.

The following table, comparing the number of cases treated over a period of several years before the late war with the last two years, may be of interest.

			<u>Attendances at Special Clinic</u>		
		<u>Syphilis (all stages)</u>	<u>Gonorrhoea</u>	<u>Not requiring treatment</u>	<u>Total cases seen</u>
1951	..	49	44	258	841
1950	..	73	49	391	1,004
1938	..	141	165	288	1,193
1934	..	143	193	275	1,319

Mr. A. Murray Stuart, who, since 1934, had been Medical Officer i/c of the Special Clinic, retired from his appointment in April, 1952. During his service Mr. Murray Stuart saw many important advances in the treatment of venereal diseases, especially in reducing the length of treatment. I should like to place on record my appreciation of Mr. Murray Stuart's work at the Clinic, and I am sure this will be endorsed by all with whom he came into contact.

HEALTH EDUCATION

The highlights of a full and varied year were :—

The Food Hygiene Display arranged by the Chief Sanitary Inspector at the Trades Exposition on Southsea Common in the summer, at which were distributed several thousand copies of a booklet specially prepared by his section.

The publication of a feature "The Nation's Health" in the July 7th number of *Illustrated*, based on Portsmouth's Health Services. From the photographs taken, by kind permission of the proprietors enlargements have been made up into an attractive display unit.

An experimental "Appointments Bureau" for the Mass Radiography Unit's annual public sessions held for one week in a window kindly made available by Messrs. A. W. White & Co. of North End. This proved very successful.

The visit of a team of lecturers from the Central Council for Health Education to conduct short courses for sanitary inspectors, health visitors and other nursing staffs.

The holding of a conference to consider the education of the public concerning cancer. It was resolved to set up a cancer committee to work in association with the Health Services Committee on this problem.

The opportunity kindly afforded by the Head of the newly formed Hotel and Catering Department at the Municipal College to include in the curricula lectures on food hygiene.

The obtaining of a new light (and much more portable) display frame from the Central Council for Health Education which has permitted a display circuit, including several of the local factories, to be built up.

The showing of the film "Another Case of Poisoning" at the Regent cinema as part of a joint publicity venture (featuring the slogan "Dirt is where danger lives").

In addition, the usual background activities—the exhibition of posters, distribution of leaflets and giving of lectures, etc.—continued on an increasing scale throughout the year.

(7) SECTION 29 (DOMESTIC HELP) (Page 30)

This section of the Act empowers the local health authority, with the approval of the Minister, to provide domestic help for households where such assistance is required "owing to the presence of any person who is ill, lying-in, an expectant mother, mentally defective, aged, or a child not over compulsory school age". As mentioned in previous reports, a scheme on similar lines was already operating in Portsmouth prior to the "appointed day", and this was extended. The number of cases assisted is only limited by the amount of money which the Committee has been able to allow for this purpose, and there is no doubt that the Service is very much appreciated, particularly by elderly persons and cases of tuberculosis which are being nursed at home. During the year home helps attended 506 cases and worked 55,719 $\frac{3}{4}$ hours. At the end of 1951 there were 58 women employed as part-time home helps.

(8) SECTIONS 28 & 51—PART V OF THE ACT (MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES) (Pages 52–53)

The proposals approved included the formation of a Mental Health Sub-Committee of the Health Services Committee, which is responsible for all the duties, chiefly domiciliary services, of the local health authority, i.e., the "ascertainment" of cases of mental ill-health and mental deficiency, the statutory supervision and guardianship of mental defectives living in the community, obtaining detention orders, sending persons of unsound mind and mental defectives to mental hospitals and certified institutions, and the provision of after-care for persons who have undergone treatment for mental illness. Through the Regional Hospital Board arrangements were made for the services of the specialist medical and lay staff of St. James' Hospital to be available for out-patient psychiatric services and for the existing staff of psychiatric social workers, together with the recently appointed "Authorised Officers", to be used in connection with the care and after-care of persons suffering from mental illness or defectiveness.

As a result of negotiations which took place early in the year between the Health Services Committee and the St. James' Hospital Management Committee, it was agreed that the Mental Health Service should continue as a joint service, but on a reorganised basis, the operating expenses being re-apportioned as between the local health authority and the hospital management committee. The principal changes resulting from the reorganisation involved the transfer of all staff, including mental health workers, to employment directly under the local health authority, provision for the periodical review of the apportionment of expenditure, and the setting up of a joint liaison committee which is concerned with the appointment and control of staff used jointly and all other matters of common interest in the administration of the service.

Further details of the service can be obtained by referring to the Executive Officer's report on pages 52–53.

CARE OF THE AGED

The great demand for hostel accommodation for lonely old people, chiefly old age pensioners, still exists, although some progress is being made to meet this need. The Old People's Welfare Committee, the body responsible for the conversion of Sunbury Court into a hostel for 26 old ladies, are very active in this field and, in spite of financial difficulties, their work in arranging social functions, distributing food parcels, etc. must go a long way to help alleviate the loneliness of old folk living by themselves.

The Welfare Services Committee, responsible under Section 21 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, for providing "residential accommodation for persons who, by reason of age, infirmity or any other circumstances, are in need of care and attention which is not otherwise available", continued with their programme of providing hostels for old people. As mentioned in the Report last year, St. Vincent Lodge, Kent Road, which provides for 21 old ladies, was opened in April, 1951. Unfortunately, it has been impossible to make any progress in providing the proposed extension of this hostel to increase the accommodation to 36 beds. The Committee have, however, been able to proceed with the adaptation of two other large houses, 10 and 12 Merton Road, Southsea (now to be known as St. Bernard Lodge). The accommodation provided is for 37 old persons, and it is hoped to open the hostel in June or July, 1952. Certain progress has also been made with the various extensions and alterations mentioned at St. Mary's House, and these, when completed, will afford improved facilities and amenities, particularly for the more infirm residents.

Also interested in the welfare of old people are the Women's Voluntary Services, who are responsible for the administration of Queen Anne Lodge, Shaftesbury Road, Southsea. Here hostel accommodation is provided for 20 able-bodied elderly persons of both sexes, the inmates paying for their own maintenance. In addition the W.V.S. run a "Meals on Wheels" service, which provides two-course meals at a very reasonable charge, delivered to the old people in their own homes twice a week. They are also hoping to start a mobile library for old people in the near future.

SECTION 47, NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Section 47, which gives local authorities power to effect the removal to hospitals of persons who, because of grave chronic disease, or being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated and living in insanitary conditions, are unable to devote to themselves and are not receiving from other persons proper care and attention, was amended by the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, which came into force on 1st September, 1951. Briefly, this means that it is now possible to arrange for the removal of persons in need of care and attention immediately; formerly it was necessary to give seven clear days notice.

Although no official action was taken during the year under this Section of the Act, several cases were investigated, and visits made by health visitors, sanitary inspectors and members of the medical staff to elderly persons living alone. It was thought action might be necessary in one case, but fortunately the patient eventually agreed to enter St. Mary's House voluntarily. The closest liaison exists between the Welfare Services and Health Departments in this work.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES (pages 54-59)

There were the usual fluctuations in the numbers of cases of the less serious infectious diseases notified. Scarlet fever accounted for 205 cases (521 last year), which is the lowest number ever recorded, except during the early years of the war, when there were many thousands of school children evacuated; whooping cough also decreased to 390 cases (455 last year), but it is too early to say whether this decrease is due in any measure to immunisation against this disease; measles increased to 2,808 cases (1,769 last year). There was one death from encephalitis as a complication of whooping cough in a child aged 16 months, and two from measles with pneumonia—

one an infant of three months, the other a child aged four. It is interesting to note from the Report of the Physician Superintendent of the Infectious Diseases Hospital (pages 54–55) that the incidence of complications after scarlet fever is now so low.

There were five (1) confirmed cases of diphtheria, of whom only one had been immunised. Unfortunately there was one death, in a woman aged 36. Confirmed cases of typhoid fever numbered two (3) and of paratyphoid three (5). The first case of typhoid was that of a naval rating, whose complicated movements obscured the source of infection, which was undoubtedly not local. The other case, a young child, was ill on arrival in Portsmouth, and subsequent bacteriological investigation indicated that infection took place somewhere in the North of England, the authorities there being accordingly notified. No connection was established between the two cases and both recovered. Of the three paratyphoid cases, one was infected during a continental holiday and the other two were both typical local sporadic cases entirely unconnected. There were no secondary cases.

There was a sharp rise in the number of cases of sonné dysentery notified—99 as compared with 25 last year. Most were small family outbreaks and, in addition, two day nurseries and a children's hostel were involved. The majority of the cases were very mild—indeed, bacteriological examination of many hundreds of contacts, who were apparently healthy and unaffected, showed that many were excreting the dysentery organism. The task of separating infected from non-infected children in the nurseries was at times very difficult, but the mildness of the disease proved it to be more of an “administrative” problem than a clinical one.

Only 12 (31) confirmed cases of acute anterior poliomyelitis occurred during the year, with one (3) death; this is the lowest incidence since 1948.

CANCER (Page 57)

The death rate from this disease increased from 1.95 per thousand population in 1950 to 2.09 (excluding leukaemia—2.05) in 1951; this represents a total of 510 (468) deaths. The table on page 57 gives a more detailed analysis of this figure.

During the latter half of the year the Health Services Committee, in collaboration with the Central Council for Health Education, decided to hold a conference of delegates from all representative local organisations to consider the possibility of forming a cancer education committee in the area; Dr. Malcolm Donaldson, an authority on the subject, was the principal speaker. As a result of this meeting a Cancer Education Committee was formed, its terms of reference being “to stimulate and direct the education of the public concerning cancer”. Representatives from various organisations were invited to attend an inaugural meeting, at which an executive committee was formed and officers elected.

To date most of the work of this Committee has been of a “pioneer” nature, formulating future policy, drafting a programme, etc., but when this interim period is over and the Committee is able to extend its activities, it is hoped that Portsmouth will have the benefit of a well-informed and efficient organisation for the education of the public on all aspects of this disease.

PARASITIC INFESTATION (Pages 58–59)

In spite of the rescinding of the Scabies Order and the difficulties in the prevention and control of these diseases, the incidence is still falling, as will be seen from the figures given below. This is almost entirely due to the vigorous follow-up system instituted at the Disinfestation Clinic by the

Medical Officer in Charge. The "problem" families mentioned in last year's Report are still with us, and, in one case, the family concerned had attended the clinic on no less than six occasions, dating back to 1944.

(a) SCABIES

A decrease of 17 in the number of cases dealt with—47, compared with 64 in 1950.

(b) PEDICULOSIS

There was a decrease of 128 in the number of cases treated—888, compared with 1,016 last year.

No less than 62 of the 246 families seen had been treated at the clinic before.

PUBLIC BATHS

(pages 60–61)

The financial situation at the Public Baths continues to be very encouraging, an increase of £419, to £4,057, being shown in the receipts. In addition, the number of persons using the baths increased from 88,921 in 1950 to 101,488 last year.

The swimming pool seems to be becoming increasingly popular, and it may be of interest to compare the attendance figures over a number of years, as given below :—

Year	SWIMMING POOL					No. Attending
1948	19,920
1949	33,643
1950	28,091
1951	34,547

The chlorination and filtration plant introduced in 1949 has, I feel sure, in some degree been responsible for the increased attendances. The general public is now very well aware of the fact that the water in the baths is pure, and what is more important to them, much more pleasing to swim in. Another factor which has raised the attendance figure is that, due to the swimming lessons given to school children, over 50% of the children attending secondary grammar and secondary modern schools are now swimmers and they make full use of the baths during school holidays. The pool is also being increasingly hired by private swimming clubs for galas, etc. after normal hours.

Unfortunately, it has still not been possible to proceed with the proposed reconstruction in the slipper baths section ; it is to be hoped that it will not be necessary to delay this work too long, as conditions are, of course, deteriorating, and this may have some effect on attendances in this section of the baths.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(Pages 62–66 and 68–71)

The total number of samples of food and drugs was 1,686, an increase of 49 when compared with the number taken in 1950. Of this number 181 or 10.7% were found to be adulterated or incorrectly labelled, compared with 7.5% for the previous year.

As mentioned in previous reports, the scheme for the provision of a regional abattoir near Fareham has been under consideration by Southampton, Portsmouth and other interested authorities in conjunction with

the Ministry of Food, and the Ministry of Works are now proceeding with the erection of a Government experimental slaughterhouse on a site at Fontley, near Fareham, which it is hoped will be opened in the autumn of 1952.

FOOD AND DRINK INFECTIONS

Observations on the first year's operation of the Clean Food Byelaws, adopted in April, 1950, are made in the Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector (pages 67-78).

A precaution against the possibility of food poisoning originating from dog-borne organisms was the issue to shopkeepers of notices advising shoppers not to bring their dogs into food shops. This issue was suggested by the Ministry of Food Circular M.F.20/51 of 24th October, 1951, and should prove invaluable in the drive for clean food.

FOOD POISONING

Many of the food poisoning cases reported by local practitioners in accordance with the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, proved to be sonné dysentery infections. The corrected total for 1951 was reduced to five, four of which were caused by salmonella typhi murium, the fifth being attributed to salmonella Thompson. No connection between the four typhi murium cases was evident and no secondary cases were discovered.

No major food poisoning outbreak occurred, but the incidence of diarrhoea and vomiting involving patrons of a works canteen was investigated. The infection, which was mild, was traced to a ham, which, although visibly in prime condition and apparently innocuous, was incubating countless colonies of staphylococcus aureus. As identical organisms were recovered by the Central Laboratory from nasal swabs from the kitchen staff, the ham had undoubtedly been infected by one of the canteen workers, probably by sneezing. This, together with storage of the ham in a refrigerator which was not switched on, ensured ideal conditions for incubation of the bacteria over the week-end, and after ingestion of the ham on the Monday morning, the consumers became victims of a common form of food poisoning six hours later. The incident proved to be a valuable example to the canteen management concerned, and all the staff are now hygiene-conscious in their kitchen duties.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

(Pages 67-78)

WATER SUPPLY

There is no change to be recorded regarding the water supply, which continues to be of excellent character, both in purity and quantity. The results of the Public Analyst's chemical and bacteriological examinations are referred to on page 72.

HOUSING

The City Architect has supplied the following information regarding housing progress during the year :—

511 houses were completed during 1951,

614 were under construction,

86 were under contract, but building not started.

DISPOSAL OF THE DEAD

MORTUARY ACCOMMODATION

The number of bodies received into Park Road mortuary during the year was 315, compared with 298 in 1950. The scheme detailed in last year's Report for the extension and modernisation of existing mortuary facilities in the City has, unfortunately, been postponed, since the Regional Hospital Board were unable to authorise the capital expenditure necessary for this project. At the time of writing, however, it is hoped that some progress will be made with the scheme in 1952.

CREMATORIUM

The site now considered most suitable by the Minister of Housing and Local Government for the erection of a crematorium to serve this area is one at Portchester. Towards the end of 1951 a joint meeting of interested authorities was held, when it was decided that application should be made for planning permission for a site at Cornaway Lane, Portchester. I understand that permission has been granted and the Minister has been asked to approve the site in accordance with Section 2 of the Cremation Act, 1902. The necessary building plans are now being prepared.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

At their meeting on the 16th February, 1951, the Health Services Committee appointed Alderman J. P. D. Lacey, O.B.E., J.P., as Chairman, in succession to the late Alderman A. E. Allaway. The Committee are to be congratulated on their selection of Alderman Lacey, and I feel sure the City will derive great benefit from his keen interest in, and extensive knowledge of, its health services.

The assistance and encouragement given by the Chairmen and Members of the Health Services and Health and Housing Committees have been greatly appreciated, and I should also like to record my thanks to my medical colleagues in the City for their helpful co-operation. Thanks are also due to the Town Clerk and other chief officials of the Corporation for their help and advice, so willingly given, to the Medical Director of the Pathological Service, and to the various voluntary organisations in Portsmouth.

Most cordial liaison has continued with our colleagues in the Hospital and Specialist Services, and I should like particularly to express my gratitude to the Physician Superintendent of the Infectious Diseases Hospital for his assistance with epidemiological investigations, and to the Director of the Public Health Section of the Portsmouth and Isle of Wight Area Pathological Service for his expert help in connection with enquiries into cases of infectious disease.

Special thanks are due to my Deputy (Dr. Woodrow), the Chief Sanitary Inspector (Mr. Appleton) and my Administrative Assistant (Mr. Woodcock) for their valuable assistance throughout the year. The staff of the Health Department have, as always, responded to any demands made upon them, and I would again record my appreciation of their willing service.

I have the honour to be, my Lord Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

T. E. ROBERTS.

July, 1952.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

STATISTICAL SUMMARIES FOR 1951

Total Population (estimated by the Registrar-General) 244,400

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres (land and inland water) 9,222
 Population (Census 1951—preliminary figure) 233,464
 Number of inhabited houses (including pre-fabricated bungalows) 54,263
 Rateable value (1st April, 1951) £1,852,926
 Nett product of a Penny Rate (year ended 31st March, 1952) .. £7,465
 Average number of persons in each house (Census 1931) .. 4.5
 Average number of persons per acre (Census 1931) 31.3
 Total rainfall 39.17 inches

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	
LIVE BIRTHS :				
Legitimate ..	3,452	1,772	1,680	} Rate per 1,000 population <u>15.05</u>
Illegitimate ..	225	106	119	
Total ..	3,677	1,878	1,799	
STILLBIRTHS :				
Legitimate ..	62	39	23	} Rate per 1,000 total births <u>18.68</u>
Illegitimate ..	8	2	6	
Total ..	70	41	29	
DEATHS	2,902	1,517	1,385	} Rate per 1,000 population <u>11.87</u>
Deaths from :				
(a) Complications of pregnancy and delivery				2
(b) Other complications of the puerperium				1
			Total	<u>3</u>
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total births 0.80				
Death rate of infants under one year of age :				
All infants per 1,000 live births (109)				29.64
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births (102) ..				29.55
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births (7) ..				31.11

TABLE I
COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS YEAR (1950)

	1951 Population 244,400		1950 Population 240,020	
	Number	Rate per 1,000 living	Number	Rate per 1,000 living
Births	3,677	15.05	3,653	15.22
Deaths	2,902	11.87	2,622	10.92
„ Principal Zymotic Diseases	14	0.06	12	0.05
„ Smallpox	—	—	—	—
„ Measles	2	0.01	—	—
„ Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—
„ Diphtheria	1	0.00	—	—
„ Whooping Cough	1	0.00	2	0.01
„ Fever (Typhoid and Para-Typhoid)	—	—	1	0.00
„ Enteritis and Diarrhoea (under 2)	10	0.04	9	0.04
„ Pulmonary Tubercu- losis	60	0.25	87	0.36
„ Other forms of Tuberculosis	6	0.02	8	0.03
„ Cancer (including Leukaemia)	510	2.09	468	1.95
„ Influenza	35	0.14	11	0.05
Deaths under 1 year of age	Number	Rate per 1,000 live births	Number	Rate per 1,000 live births
	109	29.64	109	29.84
Deaths—Maternal :	Number	Rate per 1,000 total births	Number	Rate per 1,000 total births
	—	—	—	—
Sepsis	—	—	—	—
Other Causes	3	0.80	2	0.53
Total	3	0.80	2	0.53

TABLE II
TABLE SHOWING BIRTH-RATE, DEATH RATES AND POPULATION
FOR YEAR 1951 AND THE TEN PRECEDING YEARS

Year	Birth-rate per 1,000 population	Death-rate per 1,000 population	Death-rate from zymotic diseases per 1,000 population	Deaths of children under 1 year—percen- tage of total deaths	Deaths of children under 1 year—per 1,000 live births	Population (R.-G.'s estimate)
1951	15.05	11.87	0.06	3.76	29.64	244,400 (total)
1950	15.22	10.92	0.05	4.16	29.84	240,020
1949	19.06	12.05	0.07	3.80	24.04	218,250
1948	21.06	11.01	0.06	4.45	23.28	216,200
1947	24.29	12.98	0.12	6.25	33.40	212,020
1946	23.69	12.13	0.07	6.65	34.05	204,540
1945	23.40	13.80	0.17	7.23	42.67	179,240
1944	23.53	15.23	0.17	6.95	44.98	155,860
1943	21.54	15.50	0.08	6.58	47.32	149,080
1942	20.68	14.68	0.09	5.88	41.77	143,500
1941	16.64	18.75	0.16	4.34	56.15	153,600
Average for 10 years 1941-50	20.91	13.70	0.10	5.63	37.75	—

(The most favourable figures in the statistics are shown in heavy type)

TABLE III—TABLE SHOWING POPULATION, BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE, ZYMOTIC DEATH-RATES, INFANT AND MATERNAL MORTALITY RATES OF THE 20 LARGE TOWNS OF ENGLAND AND WALES FOR 1951.

Name of Authority		Popula- tion (Total)	Adjusted Rates per 1,000 population		Death-rates per 1,000 population from :																Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total births			
					Still-Birth Rate (per 1,000 total births)																			
			Birth	Death	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	Mening- ococcal Infection	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Measles	Acute polio- myelitis and encephalitis	Acute infectious encephalitis	Smallpox	Enteritis and Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	Tuberculosis Respiratory	Tuberculosis Other forms	Cancer (excluding Leukaemia)	Infantile Mor- tality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	Neo-natal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	Still-Birth Rate (per 1,000 total births)	Sepsis	Other Causes	Total
CROYDON ..	250,300	13.9	11.1	—	—	—	0.012	—	0.25	0.008	0.008	—	—	0.008	0.20	0.05	1.92	19.0	13.0	21.1	—	0.81	0.81	
SOUTHAMPTON ..	177,300	17.05	12.25	—	0.006	—	0.011	—	0.259	—	—	0.017	—	—	0.361	0.045	2.059	24.89	18.34	20.22	—	0.96	0.96	
BRISTOL ..	442,700	15.37	12.32	0.002	—	0.002	0.005	—	0.416	0.007	0.009	—	—	0.009	0.339	0.032	1.997	20.37	13.39	22.06	0.14	0.85	0.99	
PORTSMOUTH ..	244,400	15.80	12.34	—	0.00	—	0.00	0.00	0.14	0.01	0.00	—	—	0.04	0.246	0.025	2.05	29.64	17.68	18.68	—	0.80	0.80	
LEICESTER ..	284,700	15.9	12.5	0.00	0.007	0.00	0.007	0.004	0.41	0.007	0.004	0.00	0.00	0.018	0.35	0.025	2.00	25.2	15.625	22.28	0.000	0.848	0.848	
BIRMINGHAM ..	1,110,900	15.86	12.80	—	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.26	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.344	0.032	1.78	29.69	19.2	22.2	0.26	0.48	0.74	
PLYMOUTH ..	219,700	17.31	12.88	—	0.009	—	0.01	—	0.136	0.01	0.009	—	—	0.45	0.42	0.04	1.65	33.41	21.26	23.98	—	0.54	0.54	
NOTTINGHAM ..	306,600	16.46	12.94	—	0.01	—	0.02	—	0.32	0.01	0.00	—	—	0.01	0.277	0.036	1.9	32.6	20.5	22.7	0.19	0.37	0.56	
COVENTRY ..	258,100	15.7	13.1	—	0.01	0.004	—	—	0.29	0.004	—	—	—	0.008	0.291	0.038	1.57	35.6	26.8	22.0	—	0.68	0.68	
KINGSTON-U-HOLL ..	298,100	19.00	13.71	—	0.01	—	0.03	—	0.18	0.00	—	0.00	—	0.07	0.312	0.023	1.90	46.0	24.0	23.1	—	1.38	1.38	
CARDIFF ..	243,500	17.24	13.85	—	0.004	—	0.02	—	0.28	0.008	—	—	—	0.01	0.431	0.049	2.05	32.0	18.95	28.51	—	1.57	1.57	
SHEFFIELD ..	510,000	14.04	13.92	—	0.002	—	0.006	—	0.237	0.008	0.008	0.002	—	0.018	0.294	0.049	2.009	30.55	19.08	23.23	0.135	0.270	0.405	
SUNDERLAND ..	179,900	19.59	14.12	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.17	0.00	0.26	0.005	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.022	0.467	0.066	1.98	38.1	21.8	27.1	—	0.56	0.56	
LEEDS ..	503,030	15.4	14.5	—	0.01	—	0.008	—	0.29	0.006	—	—	—	0.14	0.33	0.032	1.96	31.0	17.5	23.5	0.12	0.49	0.61	
STOKE-ON-TRENT ..	272,600	15.168	14.561	0.004	0.011	0.0	0.018	0.0	0.491	0.004	0.007	0.004	0.0	0.11	0.437	0.048	1.966	33.0	20.38	28.134	—	0.90	0.90	
NEWCASTLE-U-TYNE ..	291,700	15.97	14.58	0.000	0.010	0.000	0.020	0.007	0.329	0.003	0.007	0.007	0.000	0.017	0.377	0.048	2.005	34.56	20.82	24.57	—	0.203	0.203	
BRADFORD ..	289,800	16.62	14.91	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.003	0.32	0.017	0.007	0.014	0.00	0.055	0.297	0.066	2.27	43.6	22.2	23.9	0.41	0.82	1.23	
MANCHESTER ..	699,900	16.88	15.34	—	0.007	—	0.004	—	0.37	0.001	0.003	0.003	—	0.047	0.45	0.06	2.10	35.29	20.18	25.01	0.39	1.10	1.49	
SALFORD ..	176,800	16.606	15.96	—	—	—	0.011	—	0.28	0.011	—	0.006	—	0.09	0.492	0.034	2.15	34.62	22.32	31.03	—	0.94	0.94	
LIVERPOOL ..	784,800	18.1	16.2	—	0.01	0.00	0.02	—	0.66	0.00	0.01	0.00	—	0.04	0.52	0.05	1.98	35.1	20.3	24.8	0.125	0.500	0.625	

METEOROLOGY — 1951

BAROMETER. The mean barometric pressure (corrected to sea level) for the year was 29.846 inches (29.898). The highest observed reading was 30.530 on 27th November (30.540), and the lowest 28.602 on 4th February (28.947).

TEMPERATURES. The mean temperature in the shade was 51.4° (51.8°).

Maximum. The mean maximum temperature in the shade was 56.5° (57.05°), the highest being 78° on 20th July (80°).

Minimum. The mean minimum temperature was 46.3° (46.5°), the lowest being 26° on 30th January (25°).

Minimum on Grass. The mean minimum temperature on the grass was 42.0° (42.4°), the lowest being 21° on 29th January (16°).

Earth Temperature. The mean temperature at one foot below the ground was 52.6° (53.2°), and at four feet 52.7° (53.8°).

Frosts. The minimum temperature in the shade, four feet above the ground, fell to and below freezing point on 10 days (25), and there were 37 (50) ground frosts during the year.

SUNSHINE. 1,815 hours 42 minutes (1,752 hours 18 minutes) of sunshine were registered by the Campbell-Stokes recorder. The greatest amount on one day was 14 hours 48 minutes on 2nd and 16th June (14 hours 48 minutes).

RAINFALL. The total rainfall was 39.17 inches (27.11). The greatest fall in twenty-four hours was 1.31 inches on 11th June (1.12).

HUMIDITY. The mean humidity of the air (saturation 100) was 79.2 (76.09).

The following phenomena were recorded :—

HAIL on eight occasions (9).

SNOW or SLEET on four occasions (9).

THUNDER on fourteen occasions (6).

FOGS. Sixteen (20).

GALES. Fourteen—11 fresh, 3 moderate (fifteen—12 fresh, 3 moderate).

AVERAGES FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS (1942–51)

Rainfall	Hours of Bright Sunshine	Mean Temperature
27.89 inches	1,775.3	52.4

(Figures in brackets refer to 1950)

TABLE IV
MONTHLY METEOROLOGICAL SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR 1951

Month	Mean Pressure (ins.)	Mean Temp. F.	Absolute		Mean		Mean Daily Range	Sunshine		Rainfall			Relative Humidity (Satura- tion 100)
			Max. F.	Min. F.	Max. F.	Min. F.		Total No. of Hours	Days of 0.5 hrs. or more	Total m.m.	Total ins.	Days of 0.01 ins. or more	
January ..	29.7809	41.6	50	26	45.5	37.7	7.8	60 hrs. 36 mins.	15	82.0	3.23	20	86.0
February ..	29.5484	41.3	49	33	45.1	37.5	7.6	82 " 0 "	21	144.5	5.67	20	86.2
March ..	29.7080	42.3	54	30	46.8	37.8	9.0	103 " 0 "	19	99.6	3.92	22	77.7
April ..	29.8955	46.4	75	36	53.1	39.7	13.4	213 " 6 "	28	56.4	2.22	15	67.8
May ..	29.8966	52.8	65	39	58.3	46.7	11.6	200 " 6 "	29	55.6	2.19	11	72.7
June ..	29.9585	58.6	72	47	64.9	52.3	12.6	305 " 18 "	28	41.9	1.65	7	72.2
July ..	30.0378	63.5	78	50	70.1	56.9	13.2	243 " 24 "	30	58.5	2.30	8	76.7
August ..	29.8047	61.5	72	50	66.6	56.5	10.1	202 " 0 "	28	97.6	3.84	20	77.7
September ..	29.9440	60.4	75	47	65.3	55.6	9.7	116 " 36 "	25	77.8	3.06	13	83.8
October ..	30.0320	52.7	65	33	58.4	47.1	11.3	154 " 0 "	30	36.1	1.42	7	80.8
November ..	29.5958	50.2	61	34	53.9	46.4	7.6	75 " 48 "	17	178.3	6.99	23	84.2
December ..	29.9469	45.8	53	31	49.8	41.9	7.9	59 " 48 "	17	68.2	2.68	15	84.4
TOTAL ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1815 hrs. 42 mins.	287	996.5	39.17	181	—
MEAN ..	29.8458	51.4	78	26	56.5	46.3	10.2	151 hrs. 18 mins.	24	83.0	3.26	15	79.2

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

*By the Senior Assistant Medical Officer of Health
(Maternity and Child Welfare)*

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

MATERNAL MORTALITY

The maternal mortality rate showed an increase from 0.53 per 1,000 total births in 1950 to 0.80. This represents a total of three deaths, the causes of which were as follows:—

- (a) Haemorrhage due to ectopic pregnancy from natural causes.
- (b) Pulmonary embolus. Patient in labour.
- (c) "Obstetric shock and anaemia during parturition".
(P.M. without inquest)

Only two of the above deaths occurred in the City, the last of those mentioned being a transfer from another area.

INFANT MORTALITY

The infant mortality rate for 1951 showed a slight decrease—29.64, compared with 29.84 in 1950; the actual number of infant deaths was the same in both years, namely, 109. An analysis of these figures (page 34) shows that in 1951 the deaths occurring in the first four weeks of life numbered 65 and those from four weeks to one year 44 (comparable figures in 1950 were 66 and 43), making a neo-natal death rate of 17.68 in 1951, compared with 18.07 in the previous year.

PREMATURE BIRTHS

Special visits both by midwives and health visitors were made to all premature births. A premature baby outfit, including cot equipment, etc., supplied by the local authority, is available for nursing premature babies in the district.

The total number of premature births reported during 1951 occurring at home and in nursing homes was 83 (75). Of those born at home 2 (4) died during the first 24 hours, 4 (6) between the second and eighth days, 37 (33) were still surviving at the end of the month and 10 (10) were transferred to hospital. Of those born in nursing homes 1 (2) died during the first 24 hours, 26 (21) were surviving at the end of one month, and 3 (—) were transferred to hospital.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

During the year only 1 (2) case of ophthalmia neonatorum was notified. There was no resultant impairment of vision.

ATTENDANCE AT ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS

There was an increase in the number of patients attending the municipal ante-natal clinics in 1951—1,436 as against 1,360 in 1950. During the year these patients made a total of 10,323 attendances, as against 9,532 in 1950.

The figures regarding the attendances at post-natal clinics again show an increase, 425 patients making 565 attendances, compared with 375 patients making 506 attendances in 1950.

CHILD WELFARE CLINICS

During the year the former first aid post at St. George's Square, in which the Portsea ante-natal and child welfare clinics were held, was converted into modern premises, which were opened in September, 1951. These premises are now shared by both the public health and school health services and are proving very satisfactory.

It has been arranged that a mothers' club, similar to that held at Cosham, will be opened at this Portsea centre.

SUPPLY OF VITAMINS

Facilities continue to be available at the child welfare and ante-natal clinics for the issue of vitamins, etc., as supplied by the Ministry of Food.

The uptake in Portsmouth of orange juice (vitamin C) is 29.9% (30.2%) of the potential, of A and D tablets 35.1% (34.1%), and of Government cod liver oil 24.0% (24.1%).

The foregoing statistics do not represent the total percentage of vitamins distributed to mothers and children, as the more palatable forms of vitamin preparations continue to be issued in large quantities from the child welfare centres.

DAY NURSERIES

A nursery was opened on Portsdown Hill in October, 1951; this accommodates 30 children (age group 2-5 years), which makes the total places available 246, thus making up for those places lost when Bramble Road Day Nursery (60 places) was transferred to Anglesea Road (30 places—age group 0-2 years). The total number of children under five years of age admitted to all the nurseries during the year was 277.

At the end of 1951 there were 337 children on the waiting list for admission to day nurseries, but approximately half of these were not priority cases.

RESIDENTIAL NURSERIES

Medical officers of the Health Department regularly carried out medical examinations at Annesley House residential nursery.

DENTAL TREATMENT

Dental care of expectant and nursing mothers and of young children continues to be carried out mainly by the hospital authorities, to whom they are referred from the local authority's clinics. During the year 576 (556) cases were so referred. Numerous reports from mothers show that many registered dental practitioners in the National Health Service are reluctant to treat children under five years of age.

MIDWIVES SERVICE

The total number of domiciliary midwives who sent in their notification to practise during 1951 was 21; of this number 17 belong to the Portsmouth Municipal Service, three are district midwives who reside permanently in the City, and one registered for one case only. The total number of cases delivered by municipal midwives was 1,174, and by independent midwives 36. The former figure represents an average of 79.9 (70.2) cases per midwife per annum. This increase was partly due to an abnormal amount of sick leave amongst the midwifery staff.

Close liaison is maintained between the maternity section of the Health Department and the hospital booking office, and the Supervisor of Midwives continues to make investigations regarding home conditions where admission to hospital is sought on these grounds.

The domiciliary service of midwives still continues to undertake the district training of pupil midwives for their Part II examination. During the year 23 pupils entered for the examination and of this number 19 were successful and one resigned owing to ill-health. The number of municipal midwives approved to take pupil midwives is 11. Therefore it will be seen that the maximum number of pupils who can be trained on the district each year is 44.

ANALGESIA IN CHILDBIRTH

The number of cases in which gas and air analgesia was administered on the district continued to rise. The percentage of cases to whom this form of analgesia was administered in 1951 was 86.3, compared with 78.3 in 1950.

The administration of pethidine by the midwives is proving most successful, and has brought much relief to mothers in labour.

The following is an analysis of cases :—

Gas and air and pethidine used	..	..	..	527
Gas and air alone used	..	..	..	476
Pethidine alone used	..	..	..	10
Neither gas and air nor pethidine used	..	..	..	161

The number of cases where no analgesia was administered includes those where for medical reasons it was contra-indicated, those in which the delivery was too rapid, and those where the mothers preferred to have no analgesia.

DOMESTIC HELP SCHEME

The above scheme continued to work satisfactorily ; all cases receiving assistance are carefully selected and supervised.

An analysis of the statistics of the Home Help Service for the year 1951 is as follows :—

Number of home helps at the end of the year	..	..	58
Number of maternity cases helped	..	..	112
Total number of cases helped	..	..	506
Number of hours worked for maternity cases	..	..	7,957 $\frac{3}{4}$
Total number of hours worked	..	..	55,719 $\frac{3}{4}$

HEALTH VISITING

The number of health visitors employed at the end of 1951 was 20, of whom two were employed as full-time and four as part-time tuberculosis visitors. There was also one trained nurse engaged in tuberculosis visiting.

The total number of visits paid was 61,479, compared with 49,552 in 1950. This marked increase in the number of visits is partly due to the fact that in previous years tuberculosis visits have not been included in this section.

The number of visits paid to children under five years during 1951 was 54,843, compared with 47,423 in the previous year. 2,459 (2,129) were paid to other age groups in the family, especially the aged, and 4,177 to tuberculosis patients.

The Health Visitor Training Course continues at Southampton University and the scheme of "assisted course" students is proving very helpful in maintaining the supply of health visitors.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE STATISTICS

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES

The number of attendances, new cases and children seen by the Medical Officer at the Child Welfare Centres functioning during the year are as set out below :—

	Attendances	New Cases	Seen by the Medical Officer
Fratton (two afternoons per week)	10,084	728	1,367
Epworth Road (one afternoon per week)	8,584	421	828
Drayton (one afternoon per week)	2,800	118	424
Eastney (two afternoons per week)	14,261	716	1,420
Portsea (one afternoon per week)	4,809	379	639
Stamshaw (one afternoon per week)	6,921	351	682
Tangier Road (one afternoon per week)	4,487	185	550
Cosham (one afternoon per week)	3,617	285	721
Paulsgrove (one afternoon per week)	4,611	316	652
TOTALS	60,174	3,499	7,283
TOTALS for 1950	64,637	3,483	7,839

Dried milk was issued from the Child Welfare Centres to expectant mothers, nursing mothers and infants, at a total cost of £4,433 (£4,122) ; £4,705 (£4,963) was recovered from the patients.

Attendances at Child Welfare Centres during the year 1951, classified according to the age of the child concerned, were as follows :—

Children from 0 to 1 year of age	44,447
„ „ 1 to 2 years of age	9,615
„ „ 2 to 5 years of age	6,112

Total	60,174
Total for 1950	64,637

DAY NURSERIES

The following are the statistical details relating to the six Day Nurseries already established in Portsmouth :—

	Admissions during the year	No. on Register at 31st Dec.	Awaiting admission 31st Dec.
GARFIELD ROAD DAY NURSERY (Complement 40)	54	36	} 337 Total
CLIFFDALE DAY NURSERY (Complement 60)	74	56	
ST. PETER'S DAY NURSERY (Complement 46)	43	41	
TWYFORD AVENUE DAY NURSERY (Complement 40)	54	40	
ANGLESEA ROAD DAY NURSERY (Complement 30)	38	25	
PORTSDOWN HILL DAY NURSERY (Complement 30)—Opened 15-10-51	14	12	

MIDWIVES

The practice of district midwives and of those practising in nursing homes during the year was satisfactory, and the inspection of midwives' bags, books and appliances was carried out regularly.

	1951	1950
Number of midwives practising on the district and in nursing homes on December 31st	34	34
Total number of cases attended by them	1,777	1,967
Number of cases attended by municipal midwives	1,174	1,139
" " " independent midwives	36	47
" " " in nursing homes	567	781
Number of midwives cases in which medical assistance was sought	291	314
Showing a percentage of	20.2	19.0

DOMICILIARY SERVICE OF MIDWIVES

	1951	1950
Number of municipal midwives employed in Portsmouth ..	17	18
Number of cases booked	1,574	1,444
Number of patients delivered	1,174	1,139
Excluding holidays and sickness :		
Percentage of cases per midwife per month	6.7	5.9
Equivalent percentage of cases per midwife per annum ..	79.9	70.2
Average weekly number of bookings	30.3	28.0

ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS

Details of the work carried out at Ante-Natal and Post-Natal Clinics during the year are given below :—

	ANTE-NATAL				POST-NATAL			
	No. of Patients		Attendances		No. of Patients		Attendances	
	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950	1951	1950
Fratton (A.N., 4 clinics weekly) .. (P.N., 1 clinic weekly)	827	824	6,084	5,696	369	305	450	415
Cosham (A.N., 1 clinic weekly) .. (P.N., 1 clinic weekly)	332	325	2,193	2,275	56	70	115	91
Portsea (A.N., 1 clinic weekly) ..	277	211	2,046	1,561	—	—	—	—
Saint Mary's Hospital (8 clinics weekly) ..	2,233	2,074	26,398	25,928	1,956	2,655	2,423	4,087
TOTALS	3,669	3,434	36,721	35,460	2,381	3,030	2,988	4,593

The number of patients attending Ante-Natal Clinics in Portsmouth represents 91.2 (82.0) per cent of the women confined during the year.

INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT OF MATERNITY CASES

	Saint Mary's Hospital	Royal Naval Maternity Home
No. of maternity beds (exclusive of isolation and labour)	76	17
No. of patients admitted	2,938	297
Average duration of stay	10 days	14 days
No. of cases delivered by—		
(a) Midwives	1,970	234
(b) Doctors	246	50
Cases in which medical assistance was sought by midwife	Doctor always available	180
No. of cases notified as puerperal pyrexia	16	4
No. of cases of pemphigus neonatorum	—	—
No. of infants not entirely breast-fed while in Institution	505	28
No. of cases notified as ophthalmia neonatorum	—	—
No. of maternal deaths	3	—
No. of foetal deaths—		
(a) Stillborn	87	2
(b) Within 28 days of birth	51	—

HOME VISITING

The health visitors paid 61,479 (49,552) visits during the year :—

	Total Number of Visits	
	1951	1950
First visits	3,724	4,734
Subsequent visits to children from 0 to 1 year of age ..	15,872	8,747
" " " from 1 to 2 years of age ..	10,178	10,054
" " " from 2 to 3 years of age ..	10,102	9,521
" " " from 3 to 5 years of age ..	14,967	14,367
Visits to expectant mothers	423	—
Visits in respect of home helps and the aged	2,036	—
Visits in respect of tuberculosis patients	4,177	—

INFANT MORTALITY, 1951

DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES AT VARIOUS AGES
UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

Cause of Death	Under 1 week	1 to 2 weeks	2 to 3 weeks	3 to 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 months and under 6 months	6 months and under 9 months	9 months and under 12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Bronchitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Pneumonia	3	3	2	-	8	6	6	2	2	24
Other respiratory diseases.. ..	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Gastro-enteritis	-	-	-	-	-	5	2	1	2	10
Congenital Malformations	6	2	-	-	8	1	-	1	-	10
Immaturity	23	2	2	-	27	-	-	-	-	27
Injury at Birth	11	1	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	12
Post-natal Asphyxia & Atelectasis	4	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	4
Accidents	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	1	-	4
Other Causes	2	2	1	1	6	1	1	4	3	15
TOTALS	49	10	5	1	65	17	10	10	7	109
Previous Year (1950)	49	6	7	4	66	19	13	9	2	109

DENTAL TREATMENT FOR EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

By the Senior Dental Officer

The same arrangements for the provision of dental treatment for expectant and nursing mothers and young children obtained in 1951 as in the past few years.

Under arrangements made with the Portsmouth Group Hospital Management Committee, regular sessions were held by Mr. Lawrence for these patients at the dental clinic at Saint Mary's Hospital. Here dentures are supplied when necessary and the facilities of the hospital's X-ray department are available.

These patients are still entitled to free treatment, but not to free dentures, under the General Dental Service, and practitioners have always shown them some priority. There is no evidence that those wishing to have treatment by the dentist of their choice under the scheme have had any difficulty in obtaining it. In fact, with the easing of the demand for dentistry by the public, the practitioners' waiting lists are shortening.

Children under five are not welcomed by all practitioners, but an increasing number are doing extractions for them with a general anaesthetic at home, in conjunction with the family doctor. Others, usually referred from the child welfare clinics, are treated at Saint Mary's Hospital, and those approaching school age, whose elder brothers and sisters are school dental service patients, find their way to one of the clinics of that department.

SAINT MARY'S HOSPITAL DENTAL CLINIC

DENTAL TREATMENT PROVIDED FOR EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS AND PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN

(a) Numbers provided with Dental Care :

	Examined	Needing Treatment	Treated	Made Dentally Fit
Expectant & Nursing Mothers	170	170	160	159
Children under Five	313	309	304	304

(b) Forms of Dental Treatment provided :

	Extrac-tions	Anaesthetics		Fillings	Scaling or Scaling and Gum T'ment	Silver Nitrate T'ment	Dress-ings	Radio-graphs	Dentures provided	
		Local	General						Com-plete	Partial
Expectant and Nursing Mothers . .	135	1	134	6	1	—	5	1	6	6
Children under Five . .	303	—	303	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

HOME NURSING

The Secretary of the Portsmouth Victoria Nursing Association, Mr. H. H. Stride, has kindly supplied the following report for 1951 :—

“The figures show a marked increase over the last year in the number of cases nursed ; this appears to be partly due to the impossibility of getting hospital beds for the older people, who often have to be nursed at home under very unsatisfactory conditions, making the nurses’ work considerably harder. Compared with 1950 the nurses have attended 1,252 more cases and paid 13,065 more visits.

The Association has continued to train nurses for district work at the two key Training Homes. Eighteen state registered nurses have taken the course and qualified for the Queen’s Badge.

Miss V. L. Looker, having qualified for her health visitors’ certificate, was appointed Assistant Superintendent at Radnor House.

The Executive desire to record their thanks to our superintendents and nurses for the very efficient and untiring manner in which they have carried out their work.

The Executive also wish to thank the representatives of the Portsmouth Corporation, who have continued to give us their help, and also the doctors and other social service workers for their willing help in giving lectures to candidates for the Queen’s Roll”.

PORTSMOUTH VICTORIA NURSING ASSOCIATION

STATISTICS FOR 1951

	NURSES' HOMES				TOTAL	
	<i>Radnor House</i>		<i>Beddow House</i>			
Number of nurses employed for						
visiting (average)	18	(17)	17	(14)	35	(31)
Minimum in any one month ..	16	(15)	14	(12)	30	(27)
Maximum in any one month ..	20	(20)	19	(18)	39	(38)

Number of cases visited in 1951 :

(a) Maternity	12	(6)	28	(11)	40	(17)
(b) Pre-school children	438	(456)	436	(348)	874	(804)
(c) School children	138	(179)	139	(113)	277	(292)
(d) Tuberculosis	24	(27)	55	(18)	79	(45)
(e) Other cases	3,314	(2,181)	1,302	(1,295)	4,616	(3,476)
	3,926	(2,849)	1,960	(1,785)	5,886	(4,634)

Total number of visits in respect of these cases :

(a) Maternity	88	(46)	240	(123)	328	(169)
(b) Pre-school children	2,647	(2,879)	2,451	(3,000)	5,098	(5,879)
(c) School children	672	(957)	679	(821)	1,351	(1,778)
(d) Tuberculosis	797	(710)	534	(764)	1,331	(1,474)
(e) Other cases	52,902	(45,788)	35,922	(29,741)	88,824	(75,529)
	57,106	(50,380)	39,826	(34,449)	96,932	(84,829)

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

*By the Medical Officer in Charge***Vaccination**

The numbers vaccinated by practitioners and by the Health Department are as follows :—

	1951			1950		
	Primary	Re-vacc.	Total	Primary	Re-vacc.	Total
Health Department ..	1,637	3,496	5,133	864	394	1,258
Practitioners ..	2,040	1,294	3,334	1,843	656	2,499
TOTAL ..	3,677	4,790	8,467	2,707	1,050	3,757

It is satisfactory to note that primary vaccinations have gone up from 2,707 to 3,677, but there is less satisfaction with the figures for infants under one year—1,158 compared with 1,204 in the previous year. The extraordinary jump in the re-vaccination figures from 1,050 to 4,790 can be attributed to the stimulus of the Brighton smallpox outbreak in the beginning of the year.

Children born in 1951 numbered 3,677, and, of these, 1,158 (1,204) or 31.4% were vaccinated in the same year; thus the proportion of vaccinated infants is higher than in most parts of the country.

Diphtheria Immunisation

The percentage of children under five immunised has again fallen—59.3 to 56.1. There is still much room for improvement in the figures for these children and it is disappointing to know that only 56.6% were immunised at the child welfare centres, compared with 61.7% last year. I think possibly the necessity for economy in advertising has been partly responsible; our programme of visits is advertised only once in six months now and, unless the programme is kept constantly in front of the parents, immunisation declines. It is noticeable that for three or four weeks after an advertisement appears, or after some pronouncement on immunisation in the daily press or on the radio, our figures go up with a bound and then gradually tail off. I wonder if this is a case of being penny wise and pound foolish!

The percentage of school children immunised has gone up slightly from 96.5 to the very satisfactory figure of 97.5. I must again say how much I am indebted to the teachers for their very willing and able help—I think they show quite as much enthusiasm as the immunisation team.

The proportion immunised by the various agencies (shown as a percentage of the total number immunised) was :—

	1951	1950
Clinics	56.6	61.7
Schools	9.8	9.2
Mobile Unit	5.6	3.6
Day Nurseries	3.3	3.2
Practitioners	24.7	22.3

It will be noted that the figures for the two years are very similar, the reduction at the welfare centres being balanced by the slight increase by the practitioners and the mobile unit. The latter, as usual, toured the Pauls-grove area during the summer months and, in addition, some 30 infants were immunised in their homes when the mother found difficulty in getting to a clinic.

Every private school in the City, with I believe one exception, is visited when requested.

Practitioners continue to be supplied with both pertussis and diphtheria material as required.

REACTIONS

Thirty-four cases of reaction have been reported. Only three of these were severe ; of the remaining 31 cases, 14 followed combined diphtheria and pertussis injections and 15 supplementary diphtheria.

Injection				TYPE OF REACTION			Total
				Mild	Moderate	Severe	
Second diphtheria	..	..	..	1	—	—	1
First pertussis	..	..	..	1	—	—	1
First combined	..	..	..	6	2	1	9
Second combined	..	..	..	4	2	1	7
Supplementary diphtheria	..	..		12	3	1	16
TOTAL			..	24	7	3	34

Incidence of Diphtheria

Five cases of diphtheria were admitted to hospital during the year, and one death was attributed to this disease—a woman aged 36. Three of the cases, one of whom had been immunised, made a good recovery.

The number of cases admitted to hospital and the number of deaths during the past 14 years are given below for reference purposes :—

Year	Admitted to Hospital	Died	Year	Admitted to Hospital	Died
1938	302	14	1945	13	2
1939	133	6	1946	17	—
1940	79	4	1947	15	1
1941	110	9	1948	6	—
1942	75	2	1949	7	1
1943	31	1	1950	1	—
1944	17	2	1951	5	1

STATISTICS RELATING TO DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Number of children who received the complete course :—

						1951	1950
						—	—
Under five	..	..	..	..	..	2,689	2,772
Five to fifteen	..	..	..	..	..	760	647
Over fifteen	..	..	..	..	..	30	9
						—	—
TOTAL						3,479	3,428
Supplementary doses						5,261	3,756
						—	—
						8,740	7,184

Total number of children immunised since the inception of the scheme in 1935—70,428

Whooping Cough (Pertussis) Immunisation

We have reverted to the Glaxo vaccine and are now using their new suspended vaccine ; otherwise there is no change in the routine.

Record is kept of pertussis occurring in immunised children, and out of 385 cases notified during the year, 28 had been immunised. It is interesting to note that 22 of these were immunised in 1947-48 and four in 1949 ; the other two had been immunised a month or two before developing the disease. This seems to suggest that a "boosting" dose of pertussis vaccine should be given after three years. Of the cases admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital only one in the City had been immunised and that only two months before admission.

Treatment of the cases admitted to the Infectious Diseases Hospital was continued with the Glaxo dissolved vaccine ; 65 cases were treated, each having four or five doses spread over a week or ten days. All the cases made a good recovery and there were no deaths in this group, although several had broncho-pneumonia as a complication.

STATISTICS RELATING TO PERTUSSIS IMMUNISATION

	1951	1950
First doses	2,266	2,328
Second doses	2,193	2,151
Completed cases	1,901	1,968
Completed cases : Under five	1,719	1,789
Five to fifteen	182	179
TOTAL ..	1,901	1,968

Typhoid, Tetanus, Cholera and Typhus

183 individuals—mostly persons going abroad—received inoculations for one or other of the above diseases.

The numbers inoculated were : typhoid 105, typhoid-cholera 48, cholera 28, typhus 1, tetanus 1.

470 international certificates were issued.

MUNICIPAL AMBULANCE AND MEDICAL CAR SERVICE

By the Ambulance Officer

During the year 1951 the demand for ambulance transport showed a slight upward trend, but this was not nearly so marked as in the previous years of the operation of the National Health Service Act. It was due, in the main, to extensions to hospitals and the acquisition of Queen Alexandra Hospital by the Portsmouth Group Hospital Management Committee, with some increase in the capacity of other treatment departments.

Peak hours of ambulance work continue to be from approximately 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and, although a morning and afternoon peak hour remains, there is a more even distribution of patients between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. than in the past. There was no noticeable decline in the numbers conveyed during the holiday season.

During this year the Ministry of Health defined the word "patient", insofar as ambulance service statistics were concerned and, as this definition varied from that used by this Service in the past, no comparison is made with the numbers conveyed in previous years. The Ministry definition increases the number conveyed, i.e., "Patient means one person carried once in one direction".

During 1951 there were 53,488 patients conveyed, which showed an increase over 1950; the patient carrying mileage was 244,437—a percentage increase of 6.7. In the main categories of patients, admissions, discharges and transfers were approximately the same as in 1950, with an increase in the number of out-patients.

The emergency service received 1,868 calls, conveyed 1,697 patients and covered 9,458 miles. In comparison with 1950, calls increased by 8.4% and patients by 6.9%, whilst the mileage decreased by 0.3%. There were 120 calls wherein an ambulance was not required—an increase of 12 over 1950; throughout the year there were only two malicious calls.

In general, the public made good use of the "999" emergency call system, and, except for a few instances, calls were confined to emergencies. Saturdays on the average had the greatest number of patients, the peak hours for calls being 4 - 6 p.m., and the largest number was for persons in the age group 10 - 30 years.

Ancillary work was again further reduced because of the increasing patient carrying demands. The mileage under this category was 11,478 compared with 14,897 in 1950—a reduction of 3,419 miles. In addition, there were 5,076 miles for service and miscellaneous journeys.

The ambulance replacement programme authorized in 1948 continued this year with two new ambulances and, with one exception, the operational fleet is now all post-war vehicles. The effect was that mechanical breakdowns were at a minimum during the year and those occurring were generally of a minor nature.

The mileage covered by ambulances during the year was 114,300 and by cars 146,691, making a total of 260,991.

Members of the staff underwent first aid refresher courses during the year and some members gained further first aid certificates.

WORK OF THE TUBERCULOSIS SERVICE

By the Consultant Chest Physician

The year has seen a further expansion in the Chest Clinic Service. A new X-ray Department at the Clinic was opened in April, fitted with a modern plant and tomograph attachment and screen. This has made it possible for all patients to be X-rayed at the time of their attendance and enabled a needed expansion of X-ray control.

Later in the year we were able to add a further forty beds to our complement at the Infectious Diseases Hospital, bringing the total of tuberculosis beds up to 158. This has made a material difference to the time of waiting for a bed.

A beginning was also made during the year with major thoracic surgical work at Saint Mary's Hospital, which is now being developed further. This was a much needed addition to our service and the waiting time for surgical cases has already shown a welcome decrease.

The accelerated decline in the death rate which has been evident in the past three years continued in 1951 and reached the reasonably satisfactory level of 27 per 100,000 (pulmonary and non-pulmonary), well below the rate for the country as a whole. This decline is largely attributable to the extended use of the new antibiotics, in particular streptomycin.

The number of new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis diagnosed during the year, however, still remains high and it is evident that we have a long way to go before the eradication of this disease becomes a fact. The measures employed in the finding of new cases and the control of foci infection assume particular importance. We are fortunate in having a largely resident Mass Radiography Unit, which was responsible for picking up 25% of newly diagnosed cases.

Contact examinations have been further increased. 921 were examined during the year, giving a figure of 2.4 contacts per new case diagnosed, which, I feel, reflects credit on the health visitors.

Tuberculin negative child contacts are offered B.C.G. inoculation, and a further increase in inoculations was noted. So far we have carried this scheme out in line with the Ministry of Health, but there is obvious scope for expansion, particularly to school leavers.

Active domiciliary treatment has been carried out in some cases, but every endeavour is made to get patients in need of active treatment in to hospital and more emphasis has been placed on patients carrying out the convalescent stage of their treatment at home. Here again the Home Help Service has proved of great value.

The Tuberculosis Voluntary Care Committee never fails to help patients in an emergency, and a great deal of time is put in by the members in affording assistance to patients in financial difficulty. During the year the sum of £1,282 was spent in financial aid to patients. The Committee has also been responsible for the expenses of the Red Cross library and for many of the concert parties that visit the hospitals. They have arranged for an art therapist to give regular instruction in the wards and patients have derived great pleasure and benefit from this.

DEATHS BY AGE GROUPS

AGE GROUP	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY		COMBINED		GR. TOTAL
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
0— 1	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
1— 4	1 (—)	— (—)	1 (3)	— (—)	2 (3)	— (—)	2 (3)
5—14	— (—)	— (—)	1 (—)	1 (—)	1 (—)	1 (—)	2 (—)
15—24	2 (2)	7 (4)	— (1)	— (1)	2 (3)	7 (5)	9 (8)
25—34	4 (7)	3 (10)	— (—)	— (—)	4 (7)	3 (10)	7 (17)
35—44	6 (10)	3 (10)	— (—)	— (—)	6 (10)	3 (10)	9 (20)
45—54	6 (17)	4 (2)	— (—)	— (—)	6 (17)	4 (2)	10 (19)
55—64	13 (10)	2 (2)	2 (—)	— (1)	15 (10)	2 (3)	17 (13)
65 plus	7 (10)	2 (3)	1 (2)	— (—)	8 (12)	2 (3)	10 (15)
TOTAL ..	39 (56)	21 (31)	5 (6)	1 (2)	44 (62)	22 (33)	66 (95)

(Figures in brackets are those for 1950)

Of the 60 deaths from respiratory tuberculosis, a total of 12 cases (20%) was not notified during life.

NOTIFICATIONS BY AGE GROUPS

AGE GROUP	* NEW CASES						
	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY		COMBINED		GR. TOTAL
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
0— 1	1 (—)	— (1)	— (—)	— (—)	1 (—)	— (1)	1 (1)
1— 4	9 (1)	5 (3)	3 (3)	2 (3)	12 (4)	7 (6)	19 (10)
5—14	7 (16)	11 (12)	5 (6)	5 (7)	12 (22)	16 (19)	28 (41)
15—24	39 (50)	58 (64)	4 (3)	5 (3)	43 (53)	63 (67)	106(120)
25—34	41 (61)	39 (52)	2 (3)	2 (4)	43 (64)	41 (56)	84(120)
35—44	36 (38)	9 (16)	— (1)	1 (—)	36 (39)	10 (16)	46 (55)
45—54	31 (35)	14 (15)	— (1)	1 (1)	31 (36)	15 (16)	46 (52)
55—64	22 (15)	2 (3)	2 (2)	— (1)	24 (17)	2 (4)	26 (21)
65 plus	14 (15)	6 (2)	3 (2)	— (—)	17 (17)	6 (2)	23 (19)
TOTAL . .	200(231)	144(168)	19 (21)	16 (19)	219(252)	160(187)	379(439)

* Includes all primary notifications and new cases coming to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health by other means.

(Figures in brackets are those for 1950)

NUMBER OF CASES ON REGISTER 31ST DECEMBER

	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Respiratory	1,781	1,844	2,003	1,980	1,940	1,906
Non-Respiratory	167	193	209	221	217	203
TOTAL ..	1,948	2,037	2,212	2,201	2,157	2,109

SUMMARY OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS ON DISPENSARY REGISTER 1951

DIAGNOSIS	RESPIRATORY			NON-RESPIRATORY			TOTAL		GRAND TOTAL
	MEN	WM.	CH.	MEN	WM.	CH.	MEN	WM.	
A. (1) No. of definite cases of tuberculosis on Dispensary Register 1st January, 1951	1,067	783	90	54	64	99	1,121	847	2,157
(2) Transfers from Authorities outside Portsmouth	39	33	2	1	4	1	40	37	80
(3) Lost sight of cases returned during the year	5	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	5
B. No. of New Cases diagnosed as tuberculosis during the year:									
(1) CLASS A (T.B. minus)	64	45	29	8	5	14	72	50	165
(2) CLASS B (T.B. plus)	68	48	2	—	—	—	68	48	118
C. No. of cases included in A and B written off the Dispensary Register during the year as:									
(1) Recovered	36	16	2	4	8	6	40	24	72
(2) Dead (all causes)	42	24	—	4	—	4	46	24	74
(3) Removed to other Areas	55	42	5	—	5	3	55	47	110
(4) For other reasons	77	60	10	1	—	12	78	60	160
D. No. of definite cases of tuberculosis on the Dispensary Register 31st December, 1951	1,045	778	83	70	73	60	1,115	851	2,109

MASS RADIOGRAPHY

Report of the Medical Director.

A.—GENERAL

ADMINISTRATION

The Unit is under the administration of the South-West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board. The Portsmouth Group Hospital Management Committee acts as agent for the Board for day to day management.

AREAS SURVEYED

A total of thirteen and a half weeks was spent outside the City, the areas visited being Chichester, Gosport, Fareham, Isle of Wight (restricted survey) and the Horsham High School. The latter was an emergency request following the detection of a case of open tuberculosis in a pupil and involved skin testing the whole school. No case of active disease was found.

PUBLIC SESSIONS

Owing to the large queues which have formed in past years for these popular sessions, an innovation was made. Owing to the kindness of a business house in the City, accommodation was offered for the booking of appointments, and the four sessions devoted to this were fully booked for women; the men did not fully book the four sessions allotted to them. On completion of these "by appointment" sessions, the usual open sessions were held, and again large queues formed. On one day the queue commenced at 1 p.m. and X-raying continued with a break of only ten minutes until after 11 p.m.

A total of 4,104 individuals were X-rayed during the fortnight in which the sessions were held.

There is no doubt that the appointment system is an excellent one, and every endeavour will be made to develop it in future years. The public can avoid queuing by this means, and the Unit staff can get home after a tiring day at a reasonable hour.

TYPE OF WORK

The figures given in this report are for a total of eleven months, including the holiday period. The Unit was sent to the makers for a period of one month, at the request of the Regional Board, for "modernisation".

Encouragement to general practitioners to refer cases has yielded good results, and in the period of thirty-four and a half weeks that the Unit was available in Portsmouth 1,538 individuals were so referred, or an average of forty-five per week throughout the period.

Other specialised groups include ante-natal clinic patients, hospital staff, police force entrants, and follow-up examinations, the latter being an ever increasing group which, although very time consuming, has proved its value by results.

Less radiological work was done for the Chest Clinic, since the installation of the diagnostic set in the Clinic.

The Unit is a full clinical one, cases being carried up to the point of diagnosis at the Unit ; in the case of Portsmouth residents observation in suitable cases is maintained at the Unit and initial treatment recommended.

CO-OPERATION OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH

The co-operation of the Public Health Department is essential to this type of work, and I would like to express my thanks, not only to the Medical Officers of Health of the areas concerned, but also to the Consultant Chest Physicians, whose assistance is much appreciated.

I would also like to take this opportunity of thanking the staff of the Unit for the arduous work which has enabled us to continue to do what is felt to be good preventive work.

B.—STATISTICAL

N.B.—No case is recorded here as suffering from active tuberculosis of any form, unless the diagnosis is that of the Chest Physician to whom the case was referred, or unless confirmed by bacteriological and/or radiological proof.

1.—PORTSMOUTH

TABLE 1
NUMBER OF COMPLETED EXAMINATIONS CARRIED OUT

	By MINIATURE X-RAY	Further, by LARGE FILM	Further, by CLINICAL EXAM.*
Male	12,140	673 (5.5%)	230 (1.9%)
Female	11,011	661 (6.0%)	201 (1.8%)
TOTAL	23,151	1,334 (5.8%)	431 (1.9%)

* Exclusive of skin tests only.

TABLE 2
NUMBER OF CASES SHOWING EVIDENCE OF
PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS
(ALL TYPES)

	Number Examined	Cases of Primary	Cases of Post-Primary	Cases of Effusion	Total—1951	1950
Male ..	12,140	489	284	3	776 or 6.4%	6.3%
Female ..	11,011	490	229	2	721 or 6.5%	6.1%
TOTAL ..	23,151	979	513	5	1,497 or 6.4%	6.2%

TABLE 3

NUMBER OF CASES OF ACTIVE PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS
BY TYPE OF DISEASE

	Number Examined	Primary	Post-Primary		Tub. Effusion	Total	Rate per 1,000 Examined				
			Unilat.	Bilat.			1951	1950	1949	1948	1947
Male ..	12,140	8	16	13	3	40	3.3	5.3	4.8	4.6	4.7
Female	11,011	7	24	14	2	47	4.3	6.0	5.4	5.7	5.2
TOTAL ..	23,151	15	40	27	5	87	3.8	5.6	5.1	5.2	5.0

TABLE 4

NUMBER OF CASES OF ACTIVE PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS
BY AGE GROUPS

Age Group	Number Examined		Number of Cases		Rate per 1,000 Examined		Rate for 1950	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 15 ..	1,096	1,126	6	6	5.5	5.3	15.4	11.6
15 — 24 ..	2,761	4,311	12	25	4.3	5.8	6.5	6.0
25 — 34 ..	2,859	3,010	5	10	1.7	3.3	4.8	4.2
35 — 44 ..	2,390	1,422	6	5	2.5	3.5	2.3	4.5
45 — 59 ..	2,546	946	8	1	3.1	1.1	2.3	9.2
Over 60 ..	488	196	3	—	6.1	—	8.1	—
TOTAL	12,140	11,011	40	47	3.3	4.3	5.3	6.0
COMBINED ..	23,151		87		3.8		5.6	

2.—ALL AREAS

TABLE 5
NUMBER OF COMPLETED EXAMINATIONS

	Portsmouth	Chichester	Gosport	I.O.Wight	Horsham Sc.	Total
Male ..	12,140	1,943	4,335	2,610	1	21,029
Female..	11,011	1,304	2,741	939	323	16,318
TOTAL ..	23,151	3,247	7,076	3,549	324	37,347

TABLE 6
EXAMINATIONS PERFORMED
BY YEARS

	1946	1947	1948	1949*	1950*	1951
No. by Miniature	38,895	40,688	43,605	30,555	34,865	37,347
No. by Large Film	2,571 (6.6%)	2,761 (6.8%)	2,858 (6.5%)	2,014 (6.6%)	2,038 (5.8%)	2,043 (5.5%)
No. of Clinical Examinations (exclusive of Skin tests) ..	1,197 (3.1%)	876 (2.1%)	710 (1.6%)	841 (2.7%)	868 (2.5%)	585 (1.6%)

* Tuberculin Survey Years.

TABLE 7
NUMBER OF CASES OF ACTIVE PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS
BY TYPE OF DISEASE

Area	No. Examined		Primary		Post-Primary				Tub. Effu- sion		Total		Rate per 1,000 Exam'd.	
					Unilat.		Bilat.							
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Portsmouth	12,140	11,011	8	7	16	24	13	14	3	2	40	47	3.3	4.3
Chichester ..	1,943	1,304	—	1	4	—	—	1	—	—	4	2	2.1	1.5
Gosport ..	4,335	2,741	1	2	5	5	—	2	1	—	7	9	1.6	3.3
I. of Wight	2,610	939	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	0.8	—
Horsham ..	1	323	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ..	21,029	16,318	9	10	26	29	14	17	4	2	53	58	2.5	3.6
COMBINED ..	37,347		19		55		31		6		111		3.0	

TABLE 8
SOME OTHER FINDINGS

Abnormality	No. of Cases
TOTAL BONY	714
PULMONARY	
Atypical Pneumonia	10
Bronchitis and Emphysema	208
Bronchiectasis	100
Non-Tuberculous Fibrosis	47
Pneumokoniosis	4
Fibrocystic Disease	2
Other Cysts	7
Abscess	2
PLEURAL	
Non-Tuberculous Effusion	9
Pleural Involvement	1,156
TOTAL CARDIO-VASCULAR (includes 4 Dento-cardia)	198
NEW GROWTHS	
Carcinoma :	
Primary	19
Secondary	2
Neurofibroma	1
Others	6
MISCELLANEOUS	
Foreign Bodies	26
Sarcoidosis	5
Diaphragmatic Hernia	1
Oesophageal Pouch	1

C.—COMMENT

The number of examinations completed has again risen, the average number of examinations per month being 3,395, i.e., a rate of 40,742 per annum (the Unit was out of action for one month).

Table 7 again emphasises the difference in rates of active tuberculosis found in urban as opposed to rural areas, and again Portsmouth has the highest incidence.

ACTIVE TUBERCULOSIS

Portsmouth has the highest area figures for each sex, but these figures show a welcome fall from 5.3 per 1,000 examined to 3.3 for males, and from 6.0 to 4.3 for females. With regard to age grouping, Portsmouth figures again show that the highest rate is in the over 60 group in men and in the 15-24 age group in women, even though the figures for each group are lower than in 1950.

In 1950 the 15-24 female age group showed a fall in the rate of incidence for the first time since 1945, and this year this trend continues. The rate of incidence for males in the 15-24 age group has fallen to the 1949 figure.

CASES REFERRED BY GENERAL PRACTITIONERS

1,538 individuals were referred by general practitioners, and of these 32 were found to have active disease, i.e. a rate of 20.8 active cases per 1,000 examined. In my opinion this not only justifies the policy of encouraging the family doctor to send his patients for X-ray, but shows that there is a need in the City for the services provided, and is good evidence that a static unit is required in the City. Such a unit could increase the work done for general practitioners, and open up new and untouched fields, such as hospital out-patients throughout the group.

FOLLOW-UP EXAMINATIONS

A total of 1,696 appointments for follow-up X-ray at the Unit was made throughout the year. Of the total of 87 active cases found in Portsmouth, twelve were found as a result of this policy. The considerable time and trouble involved in this aspect of the work is therefore considered to be fully justified.

VENEREAL DISEASES TREATMENT CENTRE

By the Venereal Diseases Officer

The number of new patients found to be suffering from recently acquired syphilis again showed a marked decrease in comparison with the previous year's figures. There was very little difference in the numbers relating to those patients diagnosed as gonorrhoea. A decline was recorded in both men and women who came to the Clinic for the first time and were found to be free from all signs of venereal disease.

The transfer of the department from its temporary quarters to an appropriate building will take place in the new year. The new accommodation will greatly assist in dealing efficiently with the work of the department.

On taking over the appointment at this Centre I think the deepest appreciation of the work carried out by the former medical officer, Mr. A. Murray Stuart, should be recorded and I am sure this will be endorsed by staff and patients connected with the department.

TABLE OF STATISTICS

	1951			1950		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
No. of patients under treatment or observation on 1st January	124	163	287	150	189	339
No. of patients dealt with for the first time during the year	293	166	459	386	228	614
No. of patients discharged on completion of treatment and final tests of cure, etc.	312	169	481	384	223	607
No. of patients who ceased to attend before completion of treatment	20	7	27	16	20	36
No. of patients who defaulted before final discharge	10	24	34	22	22	44
No. of patients transferred to other centres or to the care of private practitioners..	41	5	46	50	18	68
No. of patients remaining under treatment or observation on 31st December ..	103	142	245	124	163	287
No. of Attendances—						
(a) for attention by the physician ..	1,996	1,665	3,661	2,540	2,197	4,737
(b) for intermediate treatment ..	640	1,056	1,696	649	1,234	1,883
TOTAL ATTENDANCES	2,636	2,721	5,357	3,189	3,431	6,620

DETAILS OF WORK OF THE ALMONER

	1951	1950
Number of cases helped by the Almoner	148	181
Number of visits paid by the Almoner	53	53
" " " Sister Trimble	31	41
Letters—Reports sent	239	378
Reports received	10	9
Number of interviews	94	83
Number of attendances at the special clinic	2,721	2,362

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

By the Executive Officer

1.—Administration

The prevention, care and after-care of mental illness and mental defectiveness are undertaken by the Mental Health Service, under the direction of the Sub-Health Services (Mental Health) Committee. This Committee meets once monthly and is composed of nine members of the City Council and two co-opted persons.

The Service is so organised on the basis of a joint user agreement between the local health authority and the regional hospital board that it is able to deal with the problems of mental health from every aspect, and is the link between the in- and out-patient treatment and after-care facilities of the regional hospital board at Saint Mary's (General) Hospital and St. James' (Mental) Hospital, and the community care arrangements of the local health authority.

None of its duties is delegated to any voluntary organisation.

Under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health and the Physician Superintendent of St. James' Hospital respectively, the work of the Service is performed by the following staff:—

Medical Director (Clinical Consultant).

Executive Officer (lay administrator, petitioning officer, with duly authorised officer powers).

Senior Psychiatric Social Worker (assistant petitioning officer, with duly authorised officer powers).

Two Psychiatric Social Workers (employed at Child Guidance Clinics; one has duly authorised officer powers).

Seven Mental Health Social Workers—four men and three women, of whom three men have duly authorised officer powers; the fourth man is a trainee psychiatric social worker employed in lieu of a qualified psychiatric social worker (at present unobtainable).

A fluctuating number of students.

OCCUPATION CENTRE STAFF

Supervisor. Handicraft Instructor.

Five Assistants. Handicraft Instructress.

TRAINING

Five psychiatric social work students have been accepted from London, Manchester and Edinburgh Universities for practical training of periods up to eight weeks. Two mental health social workers on the staff have applied to London University for training in psychiatric social work for the session October, 1952, to July, 1953. The Social Science Departments of London and provincial Universities continue to apply for their students to have practical training in social case work. Eleven such students have been given periods of training of up to eight weeks, three coming in term-time from Southampton University for two days a week.

2.—Account of Work undertaken in the Community.

(A) *Under Section 28, National Health Service Act, 1946.*

Forty-nine new patients were referred to the Service; of these, 18 were ex-service psychiatric casualties, four referred by the Ministry of Labour, five by the Ministry of Pensions, three by the patients themselves or their

relatives, and 19 by other social agencies in the City, hospitals and other local health authorities. The close liaison maintained by the Service with such agencies, and with the various regional and local departments of the National Health Service, particularly with St. James' Hospital, results in each individual patient receiving treatment and rehabilitation or supervision as a continuous process, and case details being available from one central source to all who need to consult them.

Another very large field of work exists in the care of the educationally sub-normal and adolescent borderline mental defectives referred by the School Health Service for such care during their last year or so at school. The infant welfare clinics also refer suspected mentally defective children of pre-school age, so that parents can be helped to accept their children's handicap and be given advice on training and reassurance about future care.

(B) *Under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, 1890-1930.*

516 persons were referred as cases of alleged mental illness. Of those cases dealt with under the Lunacy Act, 1890, 97 were admitted to designated wards under section 20; 26 were admitted thereto by orders of justices under section 21; 52 were admitted to mental hospitals under section 16; and 33 were admitted to mental hospitals by urgency orders under section 11. Of those dealt with under the Mental Treatment Act, 1930, 111 became voluntary patients under section 1 and 49 were admitted to mental hospitals as temporary patients under section 5. In 131 cases the justices to whom notice was given considered no action was required. Because of the lack of more appropriate accommodation, 17 cases were admitted to geriatric wards. The extreme shortage of hospital "observation" beds designated for the purposes of sections 20 and 21 of the Lunacy Act, 1890, has quite often resulted in undesirable recourse to admission to mental hospitals by reception and temporary treatment orders.

(C) *Under the Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-38.*

Twenty cases of mental defect were ascertained by the local health authority and found "subject to be dealt with". A further 13 cases were reported but were not found "subject to be dealt with" at the time of referral, but are recorded by the local health authority as cases for which it may subsequently become liable and are under "voluntary" supervision. Of those cases "subject to be dealt with", 3 were admitted to institutions and the remainder placed under statutory supervision. At the end of 1951 there were 19 defectives awaiting vacancies in institutions by waiting list and a considerable number not accepted for waiting lists through the accommodation shortage, though very much in need of institutional treatment.

At the end of the year there were 111 mental defectives maintained under guardianship and 187 under statutory supervision. A further 362 were under "voluntary" supervision, not being "subject to be dealt with".

An Occupation Centre for mental defectives is in operation, having 70 patients of both sexes on the register, chiefly of low grade feeble-minded and imbecile grades, divided into a general class and a senior male class. Instruction is given in sense training, elementary handicrafts, reading and writing and physical training. A senior female class of 22 meets on three afternoons under the handicraft instructress, who also gives home teaching to suitable cases.

3.—Ambulance Services

The Service uses the Municipal Ambulance and Medical Car Service.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL
By the Physician Superintendent

ADMISSIONS. The total number of admissions was slightly lower than in 1950.

During the year 1,190 (1,377) cases were admitted, excluding tuberculosis, which accounted for 253 (287) admissions. The grand total of all cases admitted during the year was 1,443 (1,664), of which 383 (343) cases were from outside the City and 2 (3) were Service cases.

DISCHARGES—1,140 DEATHS—38 TOTAL—1,178

CASES DISCHARGED DURING 1951

MONTH	Scarlet Fever	Diph- theria	Other Infections	Non- Infections	Deaths	TOTAL
January ..	28	—	66	12	5	111
February ..	27	—	65	12	4	108
March ..	17	—	97	10	4	128
April ..	20	1	74	19	9	123
May ..	20	—	76	13	3	112
June ..	21	—	47	9	1	78
July ..	19	—	47	14	2	82
August ..	18	—	64	15	2	99
September ..	6	—	51	21	1	79
October ..	12	—	51	19	4	86
November ..	15	—	42	12	2	71
December ..	16	1	52	31	1	101
TOTAL ..	219	2	732	187	38	1,178

DEATHS. During the year there were 38 deaths from the causes stated below :—

Hydrocephalus due to T.B. Meningitis	1	Senility	2
Ac. Influenza, Toxaemia, Aortic Regurgitation .. .	1	A.P.M. Respiratory failure ..	1
Toxaemia, Peripheral Vascular failure, Measles .. .	1	Broncho Pneumonia .. .	1
Meningococcal Meningitis, Peripheral Vascular failure, Supra-renal failure	1	Congenital Megacolon .. .	1
Ac. Infectious Gastro Enteritis, Myelogenous Leukaemia .. .	1	Glycogen Disease, Whooping Cough	1
Toxaemia, Ac. Influenzal Broncho Pneumonia .. .	1	Laryngo-tracheo-bronchitis ..	1
Senility, Toxic Erythema, Uraemia ..	1	Tetanus .. .	1
Erythroblastosis Foetalis .. .	1	Pertussis, Convulsions .. .	1
Fibrocystic disease of Pancreas ..	2	Toxaemia, Ac. Gastro Enteritis ..	5
T.B. Meningitis, Hilar gland T.B. ..	2	Ac. Cardiac failure, Toxic Myocarditis	1
T.B. Meningitis, Hydrocephalus, Optic atrophy .. .	2	Sub-Arachnoid Haemorrhage ..	1
T.B. Meningitis, Pulmonary T.B. ..	2	Carcinoma of Pancreas .. .	1
		Coronary Thrombosis .. .	1
		Pharyngeal Diphtheria .. .	1
		Uraemia, Toxaemia, Gastro Enteritis, Ulcerative Colitis, Pyelitis ..	1
		Measles, Broncho Pneumonia ..	1
		Gastro Enteritis, Marasmus ..	1

NOTE.—It will be noted that, in some of the diseases, more cases proved to be than were actually admitted as such. This is accounted for by the fact that cases may be sent in as one condition and prove to be another. These figures refer to actual cases of the disease.

Diphtheria

There was one death from diphtheria during the year. Three cases were admitted as diphtheria and five proved to be that disease.

Scarlet Fever

There were 215 cases admitted as scarlet fever. There were no deaths. The following is a table showing the complications arising from the 219 proven cases of scarlet fever discharged :—

Otorrhoea	..	..	..	3	Cervical Adenitis	..	..	2
Convalescent Carrier	..	..	..	2	Rhinorrhoea	..	..	1

Enteric Fever

Six cases were admitted as enteric fever and, on investigation, five from within the City proved to be definite cases of this disease—two were typhoid and three paratyphoid fever.

Puerperal Pyrexia

There were 25 cases admitted as puerperal pyrexia and 24 cases proved to be that disease.

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	Meningococcal Infect'n	Acute Polio-myelitis		Erysipelas	Dysentery	Measles	Whooping Cough	Ophthalmia Neonat'um	Puerperal Pyrexia	Notifiable Pneumonia	Food Poisoning	Malaria	Tuber-culosis		TOTAL
					Paralytic	Non-Paralytic										Pulmonary	Other forms	
Jan. 6	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	67	16	-	1	2	-	-	10	4	104
" 13	8	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	101	12	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	130
" 20	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	42	8	-	1	2	-	-	10	-	72
" 27	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	104	14	-	-	3	-	-	10	-	136
Feb. 3	4	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	73	12	-	-	13	-	-	5	1	110
" 10	2	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	118	10	-	-	5	-	-	12	-	150
" 17	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	7	187	10	-	-	2	-	-	3	1	214
" 24	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	7	151	9	-	-	1	-	-	10	-	182
Mar. 3	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	234	7	-	-	5	-	-	5	-	266
" 10	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	149	10	-	-	-	-	-	6	1	180
" 17	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	224	10	-	-	2	-	-	4	1	246
" 24	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	122	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	130
" 31	7	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	176	13	-	-	2	-	-	1	-	202
April 7	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	118	5	-	-	1	-	-	11	-	139
" 14	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	90	5	-	-	-	-	-	9	1	112
" 21	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	79	8	-	-	-	-	-	6	1	101
" 28	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	71	11	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	90
May 5	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	84	21	-	-	1	-	-	6	-	116
" 12	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	88	15	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	115
" 19	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	64	7	-	1	-	-	-	11	2	92
" 26	7	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	87	10	-	-	-	-	-	8	1	116
June 2	6	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	83	15	-	-	1	-	-	7	-	114
" 9	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28	6	-	1	1	-	-	10	-	51
" 16	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	44	10	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	64
" 23	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	44	13	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	64
" 30	5	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	31	15	-	-	-	1	-	4	3	62
July 7	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27	15	-	-	-	-	-	5	1	52
" 14	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	30	6	-	-	-	1	-	3	2	44
" 21	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	17	6	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	31
" 28	7	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	20	10	1	-	-	1	-	7	1	50
Aug. 4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	11	9	-	1	-	-	-	6	2	34
" 11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	3	-	2	1	-	-	9	1	22
" 18	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	4	-	4	-	-	-	8	-	22
" 25	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	4	-	1	1	-	-	6	1	18
Sept. 1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	6	-	-	-	4	-	12
" 8	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	-	1	1	-	-	5	1	17
" 15	3	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	3	4	-	3	-	1	-	8	1	25
" 22	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	6	-	6	-	-	-	10	-	28
" 29	6	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	5	-	2	-	-	-	7	1	24
Oct. 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	10	-	2	2	-	-	9	-	24
" 13	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	4	-	-	-	6	-	19
" 20	6	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	3	-	2	1	-	-	7	-	22
" 27	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2	-	-	6	2	14
Nov. 3	4	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	1	7	1	19
" 10	3	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	2	-	-	2	2	-	-	10	-	23
" 17	5	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	1	15
" 24	5	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	1	6	-	2	-	-	-	5	-	22
Dec. 1	10	1	-	-	-	1	-	6	1	4	-	1	1	-	-	5	-	30
" 8	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	1	2	-	2	-	-	-	12	2	32
" 15	3	1	-	-	1	1	1	5	1	1	-	2	2	-	-	8	-	26
" 22	8	-	-	-	-	-	1	15	1	4	-	3	1	1	-	7	1	42
" 29	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	2	5	-	2	-	-	1	1	-	25
Total Cases 1951	205	5	5	5	8	4	21	99	2808	390	1	55	58	5	2	344	35	4050
1950	521	1	8	8	29	2	42	24	1769	455	2	19	44	35	1	399	40	3399
Deaths 1951..	-	1	-	1	1		-	-	2	1	-	-	*	-	-	60	6	200
1950..	-	-	1	3	3		-	-	-	2	-	-	62	-	-	87	9	167

*All forms

ANALYSIS OF DEATHS FROM CANCER, 1951

[illegible]

PARASITIC INFESTATION

By the Medical Officer in Charge, Disinfestation Clinic

Scabies

Scabies continues to show a decrease in numbers—112 cases and contacts, compared with 140 in 1950, and 5,392 in 1942.

Total number of cases dealt with during the year :—

	1951	1950
Cases	47	64
Contacts	65	76
Totals ..	112	140

Of the above, 2 (4) had added skin infection.

There has been no alteration in the method of treatment. A 25% emulsion of Benzyl Benzoate, made up in the clinic, is used.

Distribution as to age and sex was :—

	Under 5			5-15			Over 15			Totals		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Cases ..	1	2	3	10	16	26	5	13	18	16	31	47
Contacts ..	4	11	15	11	4	15	12	23	35	27	38	65
Totals ..	5	13	18	21	20	41	17	36	53	43	69	112
Sent by Private Doctors	5	10	15	10	8	18	14	23	37	29	41	70

Total attendances for year	360
„ „ „ 1950	357

Pediculosis

During the year 192 (204) households, comprising 246 (268) families and 888 (1,016) individuals, were seen and treated.

Most of the cases came via the School Health Service, but of the 888 seen, 105 were sent by private practitioners or hospitals. Of this total, 733 were infested with either lice or nits—just over 80%.

Letters warning of possible prosecution for failure to attend, under Section 85 of the Public Health Act, 1936, were sent to 46 individuals, but actually involving only 17 families ; all except three were complied with. Prosecution was undertaken in these cases, but in two of them the families concerned moved from the City and proceedings were dropped.

Three women and one man were brought by ambulance because of infirmity, and domiciliary treatment was undertaken in a further four cases of women who were unable to leave their homes.

No fewer than 62 of the 246 families seen had been under treatment before for either scabies or pediculosis. Most of these had attended only once, but one family had been six times, dating back to 1944. Two families had been treated four times and one man five.

Suleo is still the stand-by as a louse killer and is perfectly satisfactory. The problem of removal of nits is still with us, but experimentation continues.

The distribution as to age and sex of the 888 persons treated was :—

	Under 5			5-15			Over 15			Totals		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Infested ..	38	55	93	95	248	343	41	256	297	174	559	733
Not Infested	14	9	23	9	—	9	106	17	123	129	26	155
Totals ..	52	64	116	104	248	352	147	273	420	303	585	888
Sent by Private Doctors	10	9	19	11	11	22	21	43	64	42	63	105

It will be noted that every schoolgirl examined was found to be infested.

PEDICULOSIS 1951	Under 5			5-15			Over 15			Total		
	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Original Attendances	52	64	116	104	248	352	147	273	420	303	585	888

Add subsequent attendances .. 3,017

Total attendances for the year .. 3,905

Alterations to Clinic

The installation of permanent cubicles and shampooing basins and a general redecoration were carried out during the year and have made an enormous improvement. Shampoos are given much more easily now and the hair is quickly dried by electric hair driers. This has an aesthetic appeal for the women patients. In addition, when clothing is crushed, as often it is, by the steriliser the nurses iron out the clothing.

REPORT OF BATHS SUPERINTENDENT

In placing before you a review of the working of the Park Road Baths during the past financial year, and comparing with 1950/51, it is encouraging to note a very good increase in revenue to the extent of £419 18s. 6d., together with an increase of 12,567 in the total number of persons patronising both the swimming pool and washing baths. No less than 101,488 persons used the baths, as against 88,921 for the previous year, representing in cash totals of £4,057 18s. 2d. and £3,637 19s. 8d. respectively.

The largest increase came from the swimming pool, which, as will be seen, had a very successful year, with no less than 5,358 increase in gentlemen bathers, 1,237 in ladies and 3,696 in school classes attending for swimming tuition—a total of 10,291.

The respective figures for the year under review are : 25,855 gentlemen, 9,350 ladies and 29,826 classes for tuition—total 65,031 ; for 1950/51 admissions reached 20,497 gentlemen, 8,113 ladies and 26,130 classes—total 54,740.

In addition to these figures, the hire of the swimming pool after closing hours increased from 589 to 609 hours—20 extra hours, representing incomes of £441 15s. 0d. and £456 15s. 0d. respectively—an addition of £15 0s. 0d.—small, but useful. During the past two years this source of income has risen by £109 0s. 0d. from £347 15s. 0d. to £456 15s. 0d.

Further additions from this section cannot be anticipated, as the hire period has now reached its practical limit, unless hire is asked for beyond 10.15 p.m., which is very unusual.

There is another source of income from the swimming pool, viz., the fees for tuition in swimming. Here fees rose by £20 8s. 0d. from £83 12s. 0d. to £104 0s. 0d. and individual lessons by 204 from 836 to 1,040.

We now come to the slipper bath section. This has been receiving good and steady support, showing 2,276 additional admissions, made up of gentlemen 1,251 and ladies 1,025.

For the past year no less than 36,451 persons were supplied with hot water baths ; of this number 29,291 were gentlemen. During the previous year the total reached 34,181, of which 28,040 were gentlemen.

It seems rather a pity that the proposed reconstruction of the washing baths section (gentlemen) has not been sanctioned, and I feel sure that unless something is done in the near future to modernise this section, as suggested some four years ago, attendances will decline. Because of the delay of this work it will be necessary to redecorate the whole of this department in 1953.

Of course, if there is still some hope of carrying out this alteration in late 1953 or early 1954, I see no point in wasting money in decoration, but for the past four years conditions have been getting rapidly worse and should not be allowed to continue much longer.

The following table gives details of the attendances and receipts during the year :—

DATE	PRIVATE BATHS						SWIMMING BATHS					
	MALE			FEMALE			MALE			FEMALE		
	1/-	9d.	6d.	1/-	9d.	6d.	1/-	6d.	2d.	1/-	6d.	2d.
1951-52 ..	17,791	6,890	4,610	2,831	1,225	3,110	7,112	14,233	4,510	1,271	5,899	1,522
1950-51 ..	16,730	7,568	3,742	2,419	1,193	2,529	6,351	10,160	3,986	1,678	4,853	1,063
Increase ..	1,061	—	868	412	32	581	761	4,073	524	—	1,046	459
Decrease ..	—	678	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	407	—	—

Date	Total Male	Total Female	Classes	Spectators	Grand Total	£	s.	d.
1951-52 ..	55,146	15,858	29,826	658	101,488	4,057	18	2
1950-51 .	48,537	13,735	26,130	519	88,921	3,637	19	8
Increase .	6,609	2,123	3,696	139	12,567	419	18	6
Decrease ..	—	—	—	—	—	—		

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

During the year 1,686 samples were taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Of these 181 were found to be adulterated, incorrectly labelled, or otherwise unsatisfactory, or 10.7% compared with 7.5% in 1950. 52 were formal samples, 123 informal or test samples, and 6 private purchase samples.

Proceedings were instituted in two cases and fines and costs amounting to £28 8s. 0d. were imposed. The remainder were dealt with by cautions or reference to the appropriate Ministry.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

During the year 32 licences were issued for the sale of pasteurised milk, 22 for sterilised milk and 3 for tuberculin tested milk.

114 samples of tuberculin tested (pasteurised) milk were examined and 2 failed the prescribed test.

297 samples of pasteurised milk were examined and 2 failed the test.

68 samples of pasteurised milk supplied to schools were examined and all were found satisfactory.

17 samples of sterilised milk were examined and all passed the test for this type of milk.

MILK

802 samples of milk were taken during the year and 67 were found to be adulterated and 90 not up to standard, the deficiencies being due to natural causes. Of this number 361 represented milk supplied by farmers to retailers in the City, 65 samples being found to be adulterated.

ICE CREAM

148 samples of ice cream were taken for examination, with the following results :—

78 samples were Grade 1	24 samples were Grade 3
32 „ „ „ 2	14 „ „ „ 4

DRUGS

98 samples of drugs were taken, and 12 were found not to be in accordance with the standards or requirements laid down in the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, the Pharmacy and Medicines Act, 1941, or the Poisons and Pharmacy Act, 1933.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926, AND ORDERS IN COUNCIL MADE THERE-UNDER

During the year 78 visits were made to business premises to see that the provisions of these Orders were being complied with.

During the year 402 visits and inspections were made to ice cream premises.

REPORT OF THE VETERINARY OFFICER

MEAT INSPECTION

Throughout the year every opportunity was taken to safeguard public health by frequent visits to the meat market, in order to maintain as far as possible constant supervision of meat supplies coming into the City. Home-killed carcase meat, on the whole, arrived in a satisfactory condition, but the condition of English beef offal on arrival was sometimes unsatisfactory. Sometimes it was necessary to give instructions for suitable treatment to be given to home-killed beef offal in order to enhance its marketability before being issued from the meat market to the traders. While the great bulk of English meat and offal came from Brighton, regular consignments came also from Chichester, Westbourne, Eastleigh and Dorchester. Home-killed supplies consisted of beef, veal, mutton, lamb and pork. As no suitable provision exists for meat inspection, the work was carried out under difficulties which were surmounted by means of improvisations. Since the beginning of meat control, the practice has been for the Retail Buying Committee to allocate meat to the traders after receiving it from the Wholesale Meat Supply Association. During the year a number of traders have withdrawn from this scheme and have eliminated the Retail Buying Committee by requesting direct allocation from the Wholesale Meat Supply Association. An important feature of meat inspection work was the time spent on canned shoulder and gammon imported from several Continental countries. It is true that some of these tins were suspicious before opening, while others were offensive on opening. According to my experience in the more difficult cases, many traders requested a second opinion rather than risk their trade being damaged. As slaughtering is not carried out in Portsmouth, no primary ante-mortem or post-mortem inspection was undertaken.

MEAT CONDEMNATIONS

Meat—English : 3,042 lbs. part ox liver ; 29 ox livers (357 lbs.) ; 120 lbs. udder ; 57 lbs. ox bread ; 465 lbs. forequarter meat ; 1,707 lbs. hindquarter meat ; 709 lbs. pork ; 286 lbs. mutton ; 1 ox head.

—Imported: 22 lbs. pork ; 47 lbs. lamb ; 473 lbs. beef.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS

During the year all home-killed meat and offal were transported to the City by road vehicles. As a rule carcase meat was satisfactory, but the condition of offal, particularly beef offal, on arrival was not always free from criticism. This necessitated treatment on the premises of the Wholesale Meat Supply Association before issue to the retailers or perhaps condemnation. It is true that it is not always an easy matter to say with certainty where contamination of meat takes place. Offal was again conveyed in metallic containers, and so far as present circumstances allowed as much carcase meat as possible was hung in the road vehicles. On the whole the general provisions of the Regulations were well observed, which ensured the exercise of reasonable precautions against unnecessary exposure of meat to contamination. Daily supervision of meat transport was carried out by the local manager of Meat Transport Organisation Ltd. and his deputy, both of whom have many years of experience.

ANTHRAX

Details published by the Ministry of Agriculture show that a substantial increase in the number of confirmed outbreaks of anthrax was recorded and no doubt the year will be regarded as one of considerable difficulty. Since 1948 a regular yearly rise in the number of confirmed outbreaks has occurred and these facts must accentuate the concern of the authorities responsible for the Diseases of Animals Acts. Unlike foot and mouth disease, this country is never really free from anthrax. It is true that stock-owners in some parts of this country were so worried by anthrax that representations were made to the Ministry of Agriculture. The Ministry responded by announcing a scheme of free vaccination of livestock against it in localities where the incidence of the disease was exceptionally high. Late one evening I received a request from the police to call next morning at Cosham police station. There I was informed that a carcase of mutton had been stolen and the sheep's head, with sheep's skin attached, had now been moved to one of the largest cold stores in the City for temporary storage. In the circumstances, I decided to eliminate the possibility of anthrax. After a careful investigation no evidence of its existence was found.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE

The considerable period of complete freedom from foot and mouth disease which Great Britain had enjoyed ended on the 22nd January, with confirmation of its existence at Yorkshire and Warwickshire. On the 24th January the Ministry of Agriculture issued a Special Order designed to prevent its spreading by means of the imposition of movement restrictions on susceptible species of animals. During March, April, May and June there was comparatively little activity, but in July eight outbreaks were confirmed. September and October were fortunate months, as no outbreak was discovered. The period of freedom from this disease ended in November, when the situation was transformed to one of great anxiety and economic loss to the country. Forty-two outbreaks were confirmed during November and 46 in December. No doubt the Ministry of Agriculture will regard the year as a most unfortunate one and details which have been published show some of the serious economic losses caused by this disease. During the year 116 outbreaks were confirmed, necessitating the slaughter of 12,875 animals which were either diseased or exposed to infection. These figures greatly exceed the aggregate ones for the previous three years. The Treasury, which has to find the money in order to compensate the owners of affected livestock, will no doubt describe the year as a very costly one.

SWINE FEVER

There can be no doubt that the extraordinary activity associated with swine fever throughout the year and the widespread grip it obtained on this country must have made 1951 a year of great anxiety for the Ministry of Agriculture and pig-keepers generally. Five outbreaks were confirmed during 1949, which was a year of extremely low incidence. After a prolonged period of complete freedom, swine fever re-appeared in this country in April, 1950, when two outbreaks were confirmed—one of them in Hants. One has only to examine the serious figures published by the Ministry of Agriculture to realise how the position has deteriorated since 1949. Four hundred and thirty outbreaks were confirmed in this country in 1950. According to the returns issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, 1,343 outbreaks were confirmed during 1951 against 430, 5 and 27 for the last three years respectively. Throughout the year 65 local piggeries were visited, but no suspicion of the existence of this disease was observed,

FOWL PEST

Unlike the previous one, which was comparatively fortunate, the year 1951 was a grievous one for the poultry industry, when fowl pest inflicted serious economic losses. Eight hundred and forty-four outbreaks were confirmed in 1951 against 172 recorded in 1950. It is true that there were fluctuations resulting from the Ministry of Agriculture's eradication policy of compensation and slaughter of diseased birds and those exposed to infection. A serious setback to the Ministry's eradication policy occurred at the beginning of the year. This followed heavy losses suffered by poultry-keepers in East Anglia in December, 1950. Two hundred and fifty-eight outbreaks were confirmed during January and the Ministry of Agriculture reported the situation as so serious that the Minister declared a Standstill Order for the whole of England and Wales. Poultry-keepers were asked to help by reporting any suspicion of the disease as soon as possible. An improvement in the position, first noted in March, was maintained until July, when another setback was experienced. Favourable figures were issued until October, when a substantial rise in the number of outbreaks was recorded. Despite the Ministry's determined efforts to stamp out fowl pest in this country, the situation steadily deteriorated and at the end of the year the outlook was still serious.

FISH

The following is a list of various species of fish relating to parcels surrendered after inspection and condemnation: bream, cod, dabs, dogfish, finnies, haddock, hake, halibut, herrings, jumbos, kippers, milts, mackerel, plaice, roes, skate, turbot, whiting, witches, crabs, lobsters, prawns, shrimps.

OTHER FOODSTUFFS

As in previous years, practically all kinds of foodstuffs, other than fish, home-killed and imported meat already mentioned, were handled under this heading. Canned foods were an important item, 31,937 tins being surrendered as unfit for human consumption following inspection.

DUTIES AT THE PORT

No clinical evidence of the existence of any notifiable disease was detected in livestock landing at the Port and all animals were able to proceed to their destinations.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

No seizure was necessary during 1951. All foodstuffs unfit for human consumption were dealt with by surrender.

WORK AT THE MUNICIPAL COLLEGE

Lectures associated with the new two years course were completed in May, 1951. This course was designed to prepare sanitary inspectors for the Royal Sanitary Institute's examination in the Inspection of Meat and other Foods. The number attending the course was well maintained to the end, and besides local students, others came regularly from Havant, Fareham, Southampton, Isle of Wight, Romsey and Guildford.

CLEANSING AND HAULAGE DEPARTMENT

Seventy-one visits were made to the horses in the Corporation stables.

VISITS

1,762 visits were made during 1951, including 383 to meat premises (wholesale and retail), 139 to fish premises (wholesale and retail), 932 to provision shops (wholesale and retail), 120 to sausage makers, 65 to piggeries and 372 relating to complaints.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

W. F. APPLETON, M.R.SAN.I., F.S.I.A.

INTRODUCTION

Although there has been a considerable increase in the work carried out by the sanitary inspectors, interests of economy in paper restrict this report to the smallest space possible.

GENERAL INSPECTION (PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936)

An increase of 566 complaints over 1950's figure occurred in 1951, 4,092 items being in the complaint book. Of these, 2,086 concerned dis-repair to dwelling houses, and 5,876 inspections of premises were carried out. Any increase in complaints is naturally followed by a corresponding rise in the number of notices served and this is shown in the following figures :

Intimation notices issued	2,340
Abatement notices served	1,050
Letters requiring work "without further delay" ..	353
Letters requiring work "within seven days" ..	122
Total ..	<hr/> 3,865 <hr/>

The supervision of the work required by these notices involved the inspectors in 17,978 visits. Because of non-compliance with statutory responsibilities, 50 owners were summoned to appear before a court of summary jurisdiction. These cases resulted as follows :—

Settled without legal proceedings	8
Withdrawn before case heard and on compliance ..	11
Adjourned <i>sine die</i>	6
Orders made for work to be done	20
Work completed before case heard, but costs obtained	4
Dismissed	1
	<hr/> 50 <hr/>

In one of the above cases further proceedings were instituted because of failure to comply with the orders of the Court.

TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, CAMPING SITES (Section 268)

The popularity of the caravan both as a holiday dwelling and as a temporary solution to the housing problem is increasing yearly, and at the close of the year under review the Corporation were not only adding to the amenities of their existing sites but projected the construction of a third. A further site, privately owned, is also under construction. Meanwhile, improvement in the sanitation of a licensed camping site has been expedited by a change of ownership and subsequent application for relicensing. Routine inspection of Corporation and other camping sites has shown them to be well maintained and no nuisances have occurred.

Several enquiries have been made regarding the stationing of caravans throughout the City by persons proposing to take up employment within the boundary. These are generally referred to the authorised camping sites, but where the applicant actually specifies the proposed site careful consideration is given to the proposal and only where it is evident that no danger to the public health can arise is the concession granted, and then it is for a limited period and subject to review.

No trouble with itinerant gypsies was experienced on the mainland, and in the few instances where caravans were parked on unauthorised sites these were investigated and found to be not in use or preparing to holiday outside the City.

A temporary structure—a summer-house in a North End garden—was found to be used as sleeping accommodation and its use for this purpose has now been discontinued.

SUMMARY OF ACTION following as the result of 75 inspections made—

Application for relicensing camping site (change of ownership)	1
New applications to station and use movable dwellings	6
Application for extension of present permission . .	2
Permits granted to station caravan on other than authorised camping site	6

In the above matters, all applications to this department were also referred to the City Planning Department and similar action was taken by that department.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

The resolution of the Conference of the National Smoke Abatement Society, urging all local authorities and industrial firms and associations to promote smoke abatement and fuel efficiency, etc., was forwarded to the Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce for observations. Subsequently a very useful article on "The Better Use of Coal" appeared in the Chamber of Commerce's periodical—*The Port of Portsmouth*.

34 observations were made in regard to potential smoke nuisances in 1951.

INTERNATIONAL FOOD HYGIENE

EIRE

As anticipated in my report on the year 1950, the Senior Health Officer of Dublin, Mr. F. W. Reid, in his report to the Éireann Secretary to the Department of Health on the comparison of the Irish Food Hygiene Regulations with the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, made very favourable comment on the standard of food hygiene in Portsmouth, and both the Secretary and Mr. Reid have expressed their appreciation of the facilities which enabled the latter to make so comprehensive a report.

DENMARK

A portion of bandage found in a tin of Danish luncheon meat achieved the distinction of causing discussion between the U.K. and Denmark at Embassy level, for, although chemical and bacteriological examination of the meat revealed nothing detrimental to public health, it was thought politic to examine minutely the machinery whereby an unauthorised foreign body entered the country !

FOOD HYGIENE—LECTURES

Several lectures were given by members of your staff to those of the catering industry and much helpful information was dispensed to persons actively engaged in the practical side of the business.

DISPLAY

Concurrent with the Festival of Britain, the local Chamber of Commerce staged a Trades Fair and Exposition. From the Chamber the Health Department received the offer of space for a display. In the lamentable absence through financial reasons of a departmental exhibition stand, the Ministry of Food was approached and kindly loaned and erected a Clean Food Exhibit. This very fine and comprehensive model was manned by the sanitary inspectors during the Fair's operations and the public's enquiries on matters of food hygiene were answered. In addition to verbal information given to the public, copies of a handbook containing succinct advice on the prevention of food poisoning were issued. This handbook, which was drafted by your inspectors, also contained a suggested code of practice for food handlers, both domestic and public.

DOGS IN FOOD SHOPS

The Ministry of Food Circular M.F. 20/51 of 24th October, 1951, which raised the question of dogs in food shops and restaurants, etc., contained the suggestion that local authorities should issue notices for the use of shop-keepers. This suggestion was acted upon without delay and the distribution of some 3,000 notices was in progress at the end of the year. Reception by shop managements was encouraging and the public appear to be convinced of the necessity for excluding dogs from shops, for only a few dissentients have expressed disapproval in the local press.

GENERAL FOOD HYGIENE (Clean Food Byelaws)

1951 showed increased activity in this field of work and 2,496 inspections and visits were made to food storage and preparation concerns. A distinct improvement has been observed in most shops displaying food for sale, specially in the provision of plastic and glass show cases. Similarly there has been an increase in the number of establishments using instruments for selecting and serving cakes, sandwiches, etc. This first year's operation of the Clean Food Byelaws increased the public's awareness to its legal rights in catering matters, and there was a greater diversity in the nature of complaints recorded. Hitherto, the public's grumble has usually been on account of the marketable quality of its purchases, but in 1951 objections included condition and type of wrapping paper, clothing and personal hygiene of assistants, flies, animal contamination, etc., etc. Although many verbal warnings were given for minor breaches of the law, no legal proceedings had to be taken.

EXTRANEOUS MATTER IN FOOD

The rate of discovery of foreign bodies in food took an upward curve in 1951 and the increase appears not to be due to growing carelessness in the preparation of foodstuffs, but to this wakening of the public to their rights. Immediate enquiries are made in such cases of food contamination reported and the findings submitted to the Committee for instructions. In the cases reviewed hereunder no prosecutions took place, for satisfactory explanations were forthcoming from the firms concerned; each offender was, however, sent a warning letter notifying the offence and that repetition would entail proceedings under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

<i>Material or object matter</i>	<i>Found in</i>
Aluminium	Bread roll
Jute fibre	Cream doughnut
Nail	Loaf
Bristle	Biscuits
Mice excreta	Flour
Hair	Bread
Cigarette end	Dough
Metal fragment	Cake
Pig's tooth	Sausage roll
Live grub	Chocolate biscuit
Traces of lubricant	Bread
Nail	Cake
Flour label	Bread
Part of bandage	Luncheon meat

Four of the foodstuffs concerned were manufactured in other authorities' areas and the complaints were then referred to the jurisdiction of my colleagues.

MINISTRY OF FOOD CIRCULAR 4/48

One firm approached the department to secure improvements to the premises under the terms of the Ministry's Circular and, investigation having shown the benefit to the public by the proposed better food producing condition, the necessary endorsement was made.

SECTIONS 13 AND 14, FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

Inspection of food premises resulted in 65 firms being sent letters detailing contraventions of the Act in regard to the preparation and storage of food on their premises. The majority of these contraventions consisted of inadequate or non-existent washing facilities and in several instances the argument of "sufficiency" and "suitability" revolved around the kettle and gas ring of the smaller establishments. Contentions of adequacy have been met by reference to the Standard Code of Practice reported to the Minister of Food, i.e., "Accessible sanitary conveniences and wash basins (sinks not being satisfactory substitutes for wash basins) must be provided for the use of the staff, the wash basins to be well lit and provided with an adequate supply of both hot and cold water. An adequate supply of towels and soap must also be provided. The wash basins must be within the convenience or in the immediate vicinity. A notice pointing out the importance of washing hands after use of the sanitary convenience must be displayed in a prominent place in every convenience.

Notes: The number of both wash basins and sanitary conveniences required will vary with the number and sex of the staff.

The provision of nail brushes is desirable. Towels in communal use may carry infection and are therefore undesirable".

CRACKED CROCKERY

Visitors to the City were chiefly responsible for making complaints regarding cafes using crockery in poor condition ; three allegations were investigated and the proprietors' attention drawn to the Clean Food Byelaws.

SHELLFISH

No infringements of the Portsmouth (Shellfish) Regulations, 1918, were observed during the year. An anonymous complaint about the preparation of shellfish for human consumption led to the inspection of a dwelling house wherein it was suspected that shellfish were being prepared for sale. It was further found that an off-shoot of this business existed in a lock-up garage in a distant part of the City. Both centres of industry were forthwith prohibited for such use.

One of these lock-ups figured later in the year in a food preparation business, the applicant proposing to sell shellfish and other foods from a mobile stall and to prepare the food in the garage. The latter not conforming to the requirements of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and the Clean Food Bye-laws, the project was abandoned. Altogether there were 41 inspections of premises used in this trade.

PREPACKED EDIBLE NUTS

The need for constant vigilance, coupled with powers of observation, was emphasised when one of the staff, in a refreshment house, observed pre-packed edible nuts on sale and purporting to come from a Portsmouth address. Investigation at this address, a private dwelling-house, showed that the food was processed in a room used also for domestic purposes. This undesirable practice was stopped.

FISH FRIERS

Several premises proposed to be used for fried fish catering were inspected, but only one went into actual operation.

Two mobile vans were also seen to conform with statutory requirements prior to the application being granted.

OTHER FOOD PREMISES

Thirty-four persons or firms applied for catering licences to the local Food Office and in accordance with established procedure were referred to me by the Food Executive Officer. Four applications were not proceeded with and four premises out of 43 inspected were found to be totally unsuitable for the purpose intended and incapable of alteration to the standard set by the Clean Food Bye-laws and the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Many others were subjected to extensive alteration and reconditioning before the Food Office was notified they were satisfactory.

POWERS OF ENTRY (Section 287)

A comment upon the tactful and unofficious manner in which the staff contact the public is that, in the tens of thousands of visits to occupied premises, only seven disputes arose over entry. The seven disputants were served with the usual 24 hours notice of intention to enter and the required effect was produced without reference to the Justices.

SWIMMING POOLS AND PUBLIC BATHS

The installation of new filtration plant and the adaptation of new techniques to maintain adequate chlorine content entailed more frequent sampling of the water in the local baths. On the satisfactory standard being maintained, the old routine of fortnightly sampling was resumed.

WATER SUPPLY

In quality and quantity the water supply of Portsmouth has no superior. The former characteristic is ensured, not only by the producers who submit untreated samples to the Public Analyst, but also by the analysis of samples of the treated water supplied to various addresses and obtained by the inspectors of this Department.

Two properties only remain to be connected with the Company's mains, the use of a well between them being compulsory until the acquisition of land on their frontage allows a road to be completed and the necessary main brought within reach of the premises.

No further complaints of copper deposit in kettles have been brought to the notice of the Department, but the result of investigations into this matter, published in the local press, stimulated similar enquiries in neighbouring authorities, and I was happy to co-operate with the staff of the Havant and Waterloo U.D.C. Health Department who carried out experiments in their area. As in Portsmouth, the results of samples showed that there is no immediate danger to the health of the consumers under normal conditions. There have been no cases of diarrhoea and sickness investigated in 1951 having any connection with copper in water supplies.

It is interesting to note that the Copper Metals Association asked for instances of copper contamination of water supplies to be brought to their notice and a representative of the Association visited Portsmouth to discuss those which had occurred in the City.

During the peak period of heavy rainfall a few complaints of an earthy taste to the City supplies were investigated and, in one case, samples were taken from the taps of a school. Nothing of a deleterious nature was revealed by the analysis.

PERSONS INADEQUATELY HOUSED

Following written or personal representations by applicants or other persons interested in housing cases, 2,536 files were requested from the City Treasurer's Department, and 2,194 applicants were interviewed in their homes and their environment reported for assessment of points. A high percentage of these inspections resulted in statutory action being taken to remedy structural and other defects in applicants' living accommodation, and, likewise, 38 underground rooms and 12 houses were found to fall below the standard of the Housing Act, 1936. In the case of the underground rooms, letters embodying the relevant extract from the Act were sent to the owners, asking them to bring their premises up to the required standard.

In addition to the above specially requested files, the City Treasurer forwarded 5,172 for assessment of insanitary conditions (Category II) and medical reasons (Category III). As in the previous year, so 1951 showed a perceptible slowing up in rehousing and there occurred a decrease of 81 to 514 in the number of applications investigated immediately prior to allocation. The priority accorded to T.B. cases resulted in 37 cases being specially considered.

Summary

Files requested by Medical Officer of Health ..	2,536
Files referred to Medical Officer of Health by City Treasurer	5,172
Cases investigated prior to allocation	514
T.B. cases	37
	<hr/>
	8,259
	<hr/>

I cannot leave this section of my work without commenting on the remarkable degree of liaison between the City Treasurer's Department and this Department, and also upon the responsive way in which my colleagues in other authorities report on cases resident in their areas.

NEW BUILDINGS

245 occupation certificates were issued and 309 inspections were made to the new premises under construction. Re-visits totalled 1,847 and the number of drains tested increased to 73.

HOUSEBOATS

Two applications were made to berth craft at the Controlled Houseboat Station, Eastern Road. The vessels were inspected by representatives of the City Engineer's Department and myself and found to be suitable.

Two tenancy agreements between the corporation and houseboat occupiers were entered into.

There were no infringements of the conditions of tenancy at the houseboat station in 1951.

A petition asking for the removal of a houseboat moored in Milton Creek was received. As no nuisance was observed, the matter was referred to other Corporation departments for possible action.

ICE CREAM PREMISES

No addition was made in 1951 to the register of ice-cream manufacturers in the City ; but 46 applications for inclusion as retailers were dealt with. Licences were granted as follows :—

To sell pre-packed ice-cream	37
To sell ice-cream	9
	<hr/>
	46
	<hr/>

Routine visits to observe cleanliness of manufacture and premises, and also to take samples totalled 402, bringing the total number of inspections and visits to 448.

One manufacturer was interviewed subsequent to the purchase of a pre-packed ice-cream containing dirt. The lapse was due to an inefficient assistant including a used display carton with new ones ready for filling. As the assistant had been dismissed for negligence prior to the Department's investigation, the firm were only warned against allowing further lapses, and were not prosecuted.

ICE CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT, ETC.) REGULATIONS, 1947

No offences against the above regulations were observed in Portsmouth. A complaint originating in Portsmouth involved the selling of melting ice-cream from a van at a railway station in London and was referred to the Medical Officer of Health of the authority in which the alleged offence took place.

BURIAL ACT, 1857

A district sanitary inspector was present at each of three dis-interments in the local cemeteries, the faculty for each exhumation having been produced to the Medical Officer of Health. The operations were carried out in conformity with the regulations prescribed by the Home Office under the Act.

CINEMATOGRAPH ACT AND STAGE PLAY LICENCES

Only minor defects were discovered in two of the City's cinemas during the annual certification inspections. These inspections, together with routine visits to places of entertainment, found a high standard of hygiene maintained. In all, 34 inspections were made.

LAND CHARGES ENQUIRIES

Enquiries made to ascertain the existence of statutory notices on Portsmouth properties caused 3,728 searches to be made in the files during 1951.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The possibility of the Brighton smallpox outbreak involving Portsmouth called for special vigilance and contacts entering the City were visited to ascertain their health and vaccination states. Despite anxiety over two suspected cases, no case developed.

Two persons entirely unconnected with each other developed pyrexia of unknown origin, later identified as typhoid fever. Investigation of their previous movements indicated that the incubation period had commenced outside Portsmouth and therefore the source of infection was not in the City. Similarly, one of the three para-typhoid B infections was an import, the patient having apparently contracted the disease in France. The other two were typed Portsmouth infections; but despite exhaustive enquiries no link between them could be made.

Whilst there was a notable increase in the number of dysentery cases investigated, no major food poisoning occurred other than a minor outbreak of diarrhoea and vomiting, which was successfully traced to a ham infected with staphylococci. Identical organisms were also recovered from nasal swabs taken from the kitchen staff of the canteen serving the firm concerned. This case proved to be a most valuable illustration to the staff concerned, and a notable improvement in kitchen hygiene and practice was achieved.

Sporadic cases of salmonella typhi-murium occurred, but were apparently not connected. The investigation of the intestinal diseases necessitated the submitting of over 200 specimens to the Central Laboratory and included such diverse foodstuffs as ham, cockles, cream buns, sweets, dried milk, ice-cream, etc.

Routine checks were made on known carriers in the City and the movement of persons known to have been in contact with infectious diseases was notified to the authorities into whose jurisdiction they were passing. The addresses of contacts entering the City from areas of infection were also visited and the contacts' health checked.

The exacting task of terminal and precautionary disinfection of 891 rooms, 118 library books and 117 mattresses was executed most ably by the disinfectors.

Summary

Total enquiries re suspected cases or cases of infectious diseases ..	598
Visits of surveillance to contacts	68
	<hr/>
	666
	<hr/>

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT

INSPECTION OF PREMISES

Dwelling houses	5,876
Common lodging houses	8
Tents, vans, sheds, caravans, camping sites	75
Verminous premises	218
Houseboats	58
Offensive trades	16
Smoke, chemical and colour tests to old drains	181
Housing Act 1936	101
Housing permitted no. survey	17
Underground rooms, etc.	109
Power factories	581
Non-power factories	239
Workplaces	47
Outworkers' premises	183
Rag Flock Act 1951	84
Shops Act 1950	562
Burial Act 1857	3
Town and Country Planning Act 1940/48	81
Cinemas and places of public entertainment	34
Circular MF/4/48	1
New buildings	328
Water tests to new drainage	73
Timber licences	30
War damaged buildings and sites	80
Public conveniences	28
Air raid shelters	19
	<hr/>
	9,032
Rodent Control (inspections carried out by S.I.'s and not included in Rodent Control report)	224
	<hr/>
	9,256
	<hr/>

VISITS

To dwelling houses re notices and miscellaneous visits	17,978
To factories re notices, etc.	47
To rodent infested premises (not included in rodent report)	346
To new buildings re occupation certificates	1,866
Re obstructed and defective sewers	615
Re Town and Country Planning Act 1940/48, (included in visits to dwelling houses)	797
To swimming pools	54
Requisitioning	629
	<hr/>
	21,535
Inspections	9,256
	<hr/>
	30,791

INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES

Ice-cream manufacturers and retailers	448
Tripe boilers	4
Bakeries	154
Shellfish vendors	41
School meals cooking depots	3
Municipal restaurants	49
Fish friers	205
Restaurants, cafes, hawkers, food shops, preserved food, etc., etc.	1,557
New registrations	35
	<hr/>
	33,287
	<hr/>
New ice-cream registrations.. .. .	46
	<hr/>
Total	33,333

NOTICES AND NOTIFICATIONS

Abatement notices, P.H.A. 1936	1,050
Letter forms re defects	2,340
Letters requiring execution of work "without further delay"	353
Letters requiring execution of work "within seven days"	122
Notices of intention to enter	7
Dangerous buildings	161
Permitted nos., Housing Act 1936	9
Certificates of exemption, Shops Act 1950	—
Timber licence endorsements	26
Obstructed or defective sewers	235
Occupation certificates	245
Factories Act 1937—Sec. 1-6	6
Factories Act 1937—Sec. 7	38
Unfit premises or parts of premises, notified to owners	50

INVESTIGATIONS

General complaints	4,092
Smoke nuisances	34
Infectious diseases	598
Typhoid cases	3
Smallpox, typhoid, etc. contacts	68
Council house applications and transfers	2,334
Council accommodation allocation	514
Food poisoning cases and suspected cases.. .. .	29
Cleanliness in factories	237
Verminous persons	207
Rodent infestation complaints	2,893
Mosquito infestations	8

FACTORIES

PART I OF THE ACT

	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories, Non-power ..	129	231	6	—
„ Power	660	567	38	—
Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced	68	68	—	—
Total	857	866	44	—

PARTICULARS

	Found	Remedied	Ref. H.M. Inspector	Ref. by H.M. Insp.	No. of Court Pro.
Want of cleanliness ..	14	14	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	1	1	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences :					
(a) Insufficient	8	8	—	2	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	32	32	—	4	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	—	—	—
(d) Other offences against Act	—	—	—	—	—
	56	56	—	6	—

SUMMARY OF WORK REQUIRED TO BE CARRIED OUT BY NOTICES

Drains cleared	135
Drains repaired or relaid	102
Drains ventilated or v.s. repaired ..	17
New w.c. pans provided	152
w.c. fittings repaired	352
Flushing apparatus to w.c. provided ..	157
w.c. ventilated	10
w.c. cleansed	54
Gratings provided to gully traps ..	10
Glazed stoneware sinks provided ..	34
Sink waste pipes repaired, trapped or renewed ..	164
New pedestal closet pans provided ..	152
Rainwater spoutings cleansed or repaired ..	716
Roofs repaired	1,207
Weather slating repaired or external walls protected ..	179
Floors, stairs or doors repaired	987
Sashes, lines, sills, glazing or sash-frames repaired ..	1,434
Damp courses provided or repaired	115
Houses or parts of houses cleansed or distempered ..	51
Houses or parts of houses repaired	9,535
Sanitary dustbins provided	4
Dust-chutes cleansed or repaired	4
Space beneath floors ventilated	26
Yards, stables, sties, etc. repaved	41
Foundation of houses concreted	1
Water supply laid on or water service repaired ..	35
Cooking ranges or firegrates repaired or renewed ..	251
Coppers repaired or renewed	1
Other nuisances in dwelling houses abated ..	114
Manure and refuse removed	13
Animals removed	10
Stagnant water removed	1
Bedding cleansed or destroyed	12
Yards, stables, sties, etc. cleansed	4
Make cesspool watertight	1
Demolish premises	1

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

During the year the Rag Flock Acts of 1911 and 1928 were repealed and the above Act came into force. This Act requires, *inter alia*, that all premises where rag flock is manufactured or stored for distribution to registered premises shall be licensed and all premises wherein any of the filling materials prescribed in the Act are used for upholstery shall be registered.

Two premises were licensed under the Act and thirty were registered ; 84 inspections were made of these premises.

RODENT CONTROL

Number of complaints received	.. .. .	2,795
Number of premises visited during survey	.. .. .	729
Number of premises treated	.. .. .	3,524

Of the above 3,524 premises treated, 2,627 were dwelling houses, 804 business premises and 93 local authority premises ; 34 Naval establishments were treated.

Of the 3,524 premises treated, 3 were major infestations, 1,745 minor infestations (rats), 1,776 minor infestations (mice).

Average number of treatments each week	71.9
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THE ESTIMATED KILL DURING THIS PERIOD :

Island sewers : Manholes	3,129	9,633	rats
Mainland sewers: „	1,033	..	..	..	..	..	260	„
Dwelling houses	}	..	..	..	..	..	12,545	„
Business premises								
Local authority premises								
Total estimated kill							22,438	„

Refuse tips, sewage disposal works, docks, foreshores and the foul sewers were treated twice during the year.

Treatments were carried out for the destruction of rats and mice on the British Railway system in the Portsmouth area and good results were obtained. Arrangements have now been made with the Railway Executive Southern Region for periodical survey and treatments to be continued until further notice.

The contract between the local authority and the Director of Navy Contracts was renewed for another year.

MOSQUITO CONTROL

Surveillance has been continued in the low-lying areas and mosquito breeding places within the City by the staff of the British Mosquito Control Institute in conjunction with a member of my staff. Oiling and ditching have been regularly carried out and the breeding of mosquitoes reduced to a minimum.

REPORT ON CLEANSING

I am indebted to the Manager of the Cleansing and Haulage Department for the following report on the Cleansing Service during the year :—

“Refuse collection has been continued at a weekly interval, and with the increase of separate collection of swill and salvage, it is extremely unlikely that it will revert to the pre-war custom of bi-weekly. The labour situation for this type of work has not produced undue difficulty. The street sweeping service, together with gully and cesspit emptying service, has been maintained. The main source of income to the department has been from the swill and salvage material, and of concentrated pig food, the demand for which far exceeds the supply. In 1951 a record profit was made both for swill and salvage”.

PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

Public Health Department,
Municipal Offices,
1 Western Parade,
Portsmouth.

To the Chairman and Members of the Port Health Authority.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Report on the work of the Port Health Authority of Portsmouth during the year 1951.

JURISDICTION OF THE PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY.

The limits of the jurisdiction of the Port Health Authority remain unchanged and are as set out in previous reports.

I. AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE PORT DURING THE YEAR.

TABLE A

	No.	Tonnage	Number Inspected		Number reported to be defective	Number of vessels on which defects were remedied	Number of vessels reported as having or having had during the voyage infectious disease on board
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Sanitary Inspector			
FOREIGN							
Steamers ..	49	20,090	—	195	18	18	—
Motor ..	386	78,428	—	—	—	—	—
Sailing ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fishing ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
COASTWISE							
Steamers ..	411	226,050	—	115	19	19	—
Motor ..	538	141,418	—	—	—	—	—
Sailing ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fishing ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL Foreign & Coastwise	1,384	465,986	—	310	37	37	—

Although the number of vessels shows a decrease (84) as compared with the previous year the tonnage has increased by 28,198.

II. CHARACTER OF TRADE OF PORT

There was no passenger traffic during the year.

Cargo Traffic. The principal imports were coal, cement, stone, oil, timber, glassware, building materials, tomatoes, onions, potatoes, cauliflower, citrus fruits, apples, pears, peaches, nuts and general cargo traffic, from France, Italy, Holland, Belgium, Germany, Sweden, Finland, Norway, North Africa, Spain and Channel Islands.

The principal exports were pitch, machinery, scrap iron, fertilizers and general cargo.

III. SOURCES OF WATER SUPPLY

The arrangements regarding the water supply remain unchanged and are as set out in previous reports.

IV. PORT HEALTH REGULATIONS, 1933

The arrangements made under the Port Health Regulations, 1933, remain unchanged, and are as set out in previous reports.

TABLE C

There were no cases of infectious diseases landed from vessels.

TABLE D

There were no cases of infectious diseases occurring upon the voyage but disposed of prior to vessel's arrival.

V. MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS

Vessels arriving from abroad are examined periodically by the Port Sanitary Inspector. Rat disinfestation is carried out by the Rodent Control Section of the Health Department.

When necessary rat guards are placed on ropes between ships and the quays. The Port is not approved for the deratisation of ships. During the year one deratisation exemption certificate was issued as a result of the agreement with the Southampton Port Health Authority.

TABLE E

RATS DESTROYED DURING THE YEAR
(in vessels)

NUMBER OF RATS	Total
Black	—
Brown	—
Species not recorded	—
Examined	—
Infected with plague	—

TABLE F

RATS DESTROYED IN DOCKS, QUAYS, WHARVES, WAREHOUSES

NUMBER OF RATS	Total
Black	15
Brown	29
Species not recorded	—
Examined	5
Infected with plague	—

VI. HYGIENE OF CREWS' SPACES

TABLE J

Nationality of vessels	No. Inspected during year	Defects of original construction	Structural defects through wear and tear	Dirt, vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health
British	115	—	—	19
Other Nations	195	—	—	18

VII. FOOD INSPECTION

During the year there was again substantial trade activity in the importation of foodstuffs, especially fruit.

Flathouse. Importation of Italian fruit was handled at Flathouse and despatched by road vehicles to various parts of the country. Some cargoes were shipped directly from Italy, while others arrived from French and Belgian ports. This trade creates employment of labour for sorting fruits and the resulting wastage is removed regularly. Imported Italian produce consisted of peaches, grapes, plums, pears, potatoes, lemons, cauliflowers and nuts.

A consignment of pears caused some trouble, owing to their excessive contamination by a poisonous chemical substance, no doubt arising from pest control measures. The pears were released only after being very carefully picked over.

Camber. Most of the edible imports shipped to the Camber were of French and Channel Islands origin and comprised chiefly cauliflowers, tomatoes, onions and potatoes.

No adverse reports were made by the Veterinary Officer and Food Inspector during the year.

The number of livestock landed from the Isle of Wight was 227 (141 cattle, 10 calves, 60 horses and 16 sheep). No clinical evidence of the existence of any contagious or notifiable diseases was found and all animals were able to proceed to their destinations.

I desire to express my thanks to the King's Harbour Master and to H.M. Collector of Customs and staff for their cordial co-operation and valuable assistance during the year, and to record my appreciation of the excellent service willingly given me by the Port Sanitary Inspector.

INSPECTION DUTIES

As a result of a visit to the Port by a medical officer of the Ministry of Health, representations were again made to the Authority that arrangements should be made for the work of inspection to be performed by officers holding the necessary qualifications.

It was made clear that there was no criticism of the manner in which the Harbour Master and his deputy had carried out these duties in the past, but it was suggested by the Ministry that more suitable alternative arrangements should be considered at an early date.

After full consideration it was decided that action should be taken on the lines suggested, and from the end of the year the Chief Sanitary Inspector and his staff will undertake the responsibility for this work.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

T. E. ROBERTS,
*Medical Officer of Health,
City and Port of Portsmouth.*

1st March, 1952.

THE PUBLIC ANALYST'S REPORT

THE PUBLIC ANALYST'S DEPARTMENT,
TRAFALGAR PLACE,
CLIVE ROAD,
PORTSMOUTH.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health and Housing Committee.

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the work carried out in my Department during the year 1951.

The total number of samples submitted for examination was 3,097. These may be summarised as follows :—

Food and Drugs Act	..	..	..	..	1,686
Designated Milk	..	..	..	..	428
Ice Cream (Hygienic quality)	..	..	..	..	148
City Water	..	..	..	..	33
Swimming Bath Water	..	..	..	..	102
Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act	..	..	..	..	12
SAMPLES EXAMINED FOR :					
Borough of Gosport	..	..	..	..	147
Isle of Wight County Council	..	..	..	..	199
Other Local Authorities	..	..	..	..	55
Corporation Departments	..	..	..	..	141
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	146
TOTAL					3,097

Of the 1,686 samples which were submitted under the Food and Drugs Act, 181 (equal to 10·7 per cent) were found to be adulterated, incorrectly labelled or otherwise unsatisfactory.

Legal proceedings were taken in two cases only ; both were successful. The remainder were dealt with by caution.

I am glad to take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the efficient and loyal service of the technical and clerical staff and the valuable co-operation of the Sampling Officer.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Members,

Your obedient servant,

A. L. WILLIAMS,
Public Analyst.

Nature of Sample	Number Examined	Number Genuine	Number Irregular	Percentage Irregular
Foods				
Milk	802	735	67	8·4
Alcoholic Liquors	23	22	1	4·3
Apples	5	—	5	100·0
Arrowroot	3	1	2	66·7
Beer	6	6	—	—
Butter	54	54	—	—
Baking Powder	4	3	1	25·0
Blancmange and Dessert Powder	10	10	—	—
Cooking Fat	52	52	—	—
Cheese	52	52	—	—
Coffee and Chicory Essence	11	11	—	—
Coffee	11	11	—	—
Cake Mixtures, etc.	43	18	25	58·1
Cocoa	8	8	—	—
Curry Powder	4	4	—	—
Cream Doughnut	1	—	1	100·0
Canned Peas	1	1	—	—
Cornflour	1	1	—	—
Canned Cherries	4	4	—	—
Chocolate	6	6	—	—
Cordials	1	—	1	100·0
Dried Herbs	17	14	3	17·7
Dripping and Beef Suet	5	4	1	20·0
Dates	1	—	1	100·0
Essence of Rennet	3	3	—	—
Fruit Curd (Lemon Cheese)	20	15	5	25·0
Fish Paste	2	2	—	—
Farinoca	1	1	—	—
Fruit Wine	1	—	1	100·0
Ground Ginger	2	2	—	—
Gravy Browning	1	1	—	—
Glacé Cherries	2	2	—	—
Golden Raising Powder	2	2	—	—
Grape Juice	1	1	—	—
Ice Cream	37	35	2	5·4
Jam (Preserves)	39	39	—	—
Lentils	1	—	1	100·0
Lemonade or Orangeade	3	2	1	33·3
Lucozade	1	1	—	—
Luncheon Sausage	1	1	—	—
Meat Preparations	1	1	—	—
Margarine	52	52	—	—
Malt Vinegar	18	14	4	22·2
Meat Paste	2	2	—	—
Meat Pies	17	12	5	29·4
Mustard	1	1	—	—
Mincemeat	19	11	8	42·1
Mixed Peel	4	1	3	75·0
Nuts	2	—	2	100·0
Pearl Barley	1	1	—	—
Pepper Compound	1	1	—	—
Pastry Mix	2	1	1	50·0
Rice	4	3	1	25·0
Sausage and Sausage Meat	28	18	10	35·7
Sugar	52	52	—	—
Solid Soft Drinks	2	1	1	50·0
Sweets	20	15	5	25·0
Self-Raising Flour	11	11	—	—
Salad Cream	4	4	—	—
Semolina	3	3	—	—
Tea	54	54	—	—
Table Jellies	41	32	9	21·9
Tomato Soup (Canned)	3	1	2	66·7
Xmas Puddings	4	4	—	—
Total Foods	1,588	1,419	169	10·6

Nature of Sample	Number Examined	Number Genuine	Number Irregular	Percentage Irregular
Drugs				
Aspirin Tablets	4	4	—	—
Antacid Powder	1	1	—	—
Bicarbonate of Soda	1	1	—	—
Boric Acid Ointment	5	5	—	—
Calamine Lotion	8	5	3	37·5
Citric Acid	2	2	—	—
Cod Liver Oil	1	1	—	—
Cough Mixtures	1	1	—	—
Cream of Tartar	3	3	—	—
Easton Syrup	2	2	—	—
Epsom Salts	6	6	—	—
Friars Balsam	4	4	—	—
Fynnon Salts	1	1	—	—
Glauber Salts	4	4	—	—
Liquid Paraffin	4	4	—	—
Medicinal Peppermints	1	1	—	—
Mosquito and Sting Lotion	1	—	1	100·0
Sulphur Ointment	9	9	—	—
Seidlitz Powders	11	6	5	44·4
Tincture of Iodine	10	8	2	20·0
White Precipitate Ointment	4	4	—	—
Wintergreen Ointment	5	5	—	—
Yellow Basilicon Ointment	5	5	—	—
Zinc Ointment	5	4	1	20·0
Total Drugs	98	86	12	12·3
Total Foods	1,588	1,419	169	10·6
Total Food and Drugs	1,686	1,505	181	10·7

CHANGES IN LEGISLATION

Legislation in 1951 was confined mainly to new Food Standards Orders.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (SPECIFIED AREAS) ORDER S.I. 1358.

The City of Portsmouth is included in the areas specified in this Order, which prohibits the sale of raw milk other than milk from T.T. or (until 1954) Accredited herds. This is the first Order to be made; other areas will be specified when local circumstances permit and eventually the whole country will be subject to this legislation.

THE FOOD STANDARDS (ICE CREAM) ORDER S.I. 13.

Minimum standards for fat, non-fatty milk solids, and total sugars are prescribed for ice cream. This Order is in the nature of an interim measure until the supply of raw materials permits a superior product to be prescribed. At the present time the supply of raw materials is so difficult that even these modest standards may soon be changed.

THE FOOD STANDARDS (CREAM) ORDER S.I. 668.

This Order enforces standards for the minimum fat content of single (18%), double (48%) and sterilised cream (23%). It is at present only of academic interest, since all these products are unobtainable in Portsmouth.

THE FOOD STANDARD (EDIBLE GELATINE) ORDERS S.I.'s 1196 AND 2240.

THE FOOD STANDARD (FISH PASTE) ORDERS S.I.'s 1456 AND 2241.

THE FOOD STANDARD (MEAT PASTE) ORDERS S.I.'s 1457 AND 2242.

The manufacture and sale of gelatine, fish paste and meat paste have recently been freed from control. The compositional standards enforced by the revoked control orders have been re-imposed by the above Foods Standards Orders.

THE MEAT PRODUCTS AND CANNED MEAT ORDERS S.I.'s 314 AND 1029.

These amendments to the original Order have allowed up to 10% of the meat in sausages to be replaced by three-fifths by weight of skimmed milk powder. They have also permitted the addition of whale meat to meat products, provided they are sold as "whale meat products".

CIRCULAR M.F. 21/51.

It was announced during the year that an agreement had been reached between the Ministry of Food and the Confectionery Trade to the effect that sweets which claim or suggest the presence of butter must contain not less than 4% of butter fat.

MILK

During the year 802 samples of milk from roundsmen, schools and farmers were examined for nutritive quality. The food value of milk depends upon the proportion of milk fat and solid matter which it contains, and the term "solids other than fat" is used to describe the easier (protein), milk sugar and mineral salts which are of even greater importance than butter fat from a nutritive point of view.

Of the 802 samples, 374 were taken from farmers delivering to local dairies, 360 were taken from roundsmen delivering to the public, and 68 represented $\frac{1}{3}$ -pint bottles delivered to the various schools in the city. All these School milks were satisfactory.

EXTRANEOUS WATER.

44 samples of milk contained extraneous or added water. Only two samples out of the 360 taken from roundsmen contained added water, and in each case the proportion was very small (1 to 2%). The explanation was probably faulty plant management.

The remaining 42 watered samples were taken from 11 farmers delivering to local dairies. Proceedings were taken in one case of adulteration with 8% and 9% water, and the farmer was fined £15 with £5 5s. costs. In another case (15% water) it was found that although the milk was consigned to Portsmouth the place of delivery, in law, was in the County Area, and as a result of subsequent sampling by the County Authority, the farmer was prosecuted and fined £20.

The remaining cases were dealt with by caution. In three instances the amount of water was small and was probably due to the condensation of steam in the milking machine after sterilisation. Two farmers claimed a leaking cooler to be responsible and immediately purchased a replacement cooler. Another farmer was able to prove that an employee had deliberately added the water to the milk, and the employee was discharged. In another case, the farmer admitted that he used the milk churns for carrying water on the farm and he presumed that this practice, together with some carelessness, was responsible for the water which was found in the milk.

FAT DEFICIENCY.

23 samples failed to reach the minimum limit of 3% of fat.

Skimming was indicated in the case of one supply from a farmer delivering to a local dairy. Afternoon milk contained only 1.9% of fat, and the prosecution against this farmer resulted in a fine of £5 with £3 3s. costs.

All the other samples represented the morning milk, which regularly contains less fat than afternoon milk. Morning milk frequently contains less than the limit of 3.0% fat when there is an excessively long period of time between the two milkings. The dairies are careful to mix the morning and afternoon milk, so that when sold to the public the quality is invariably superior to the limit. The following table shows the average composition of the mixed milk which is sold to the public (Channel Island milk has been excluded).

AVERAGE COMPOSITION OF MILK

Month	Fat	Solids-not-Fat	Total Solids	No. of Samples Examined
January	4.18	8.59	12.77	35
February	3.81	8.54	12.35	28
March	3.88	8.53	12.41	12
April	3.76	8.54	12.30	23
May	3.50	8.70	12.20	35
June	3.59	8.74	12.33	32
July	3.59	8.59	12.18	42
August	3.66	8.70	12.36	32
September	3.82	8.75	12.57	30
October	3.83	8.83	12.66	47
November	3.96	8.66	12.62	34
December	3.98	8.66	12.64	24
Average 1951 ..	3.79	8.67	12.46	374
„ 1950 ..	3.72	8.75	12.47	363
„ 1949 ..	3.69	8.71	12.40	341

CHANNEL ISLAND MILK.

The milk from Jersey, Guernsey, etc., cows is generally richer in fat than other breeds and a higher price may be charged for it when it satisfies two conditions, namely, it must come from a herd consisting entirely of Channel Island breeds, and the fat content must not be less than 4·0%.

During the year 90 samples of this type of milk were examined, 25 samples from farmers' churns and 65 samples from the pint bottles sold to the public by dairymen.

All the samples sold retail were satisfactory and only one farmer's supply was inferior. The Milk Marketing Board undertook to advise this farmer on better methods of production. The following figures give a comparison of the average quality of ordinary milk and Channel Island milk as sold to the public.

				Average Fat per cent	
				Channel Island Milk	Ordinary Milk
1951	..	..	..	4·67	3·79
1950	..	..	..	4·47	3·72

ABNORMAL MILK OF LOW QUALITY

Of the 802 samples of milk examined, 90 were classified as abnormally poor in solids-not-fat, due to the condition of the cows. There was no evidence of the addition of water or other tampering in these samples, and it is to be presumed that the unsatisfactory quality was due to bad breeding and unbalanced feeding of the cows. Advisory action is taken in these cases, but it must be admitted that a number of farmers are not in a position to feed their herds as they would like under present-day conditions.

DESIGNATED MILK.

With effect from the 1st October, 1951, all milk sold in the City of Portsmouth and the neighbouring districts of Gosport, Fareham and Havant, must be either heat-treated or produced from a T.T. herd. As a temporary measure until October 1st, 1954, the milk from a single herd may be sold under the designation "accredited milk".

Actually, all the milk in the City is heat-treated, i.e., pasteurised or sterilised. The bulk of the milk is pasteurised, and the manner in which this process is to be carried out is prescribed in legislation in great detail. Enforcement is provided by a laboratory test known as the Phosphatase Test. In the case of sterilised milk, the efficiency of sterilisation is measured in the laboratory by a Turbidity Test.

In order to prevent the sale of stale milk a Methylene Blue Test is prescribed to assess the keeping quality. This test measures the chemical activity of the organisms which are present in the milk, and since it is impracticable to prevent the rapid growth of organisms in very hot weather, it is held that the Methylene Blue Test is unfair to the dairyman when the atmospheric shade temperature exceeds 65° F, and under these conditions the test is void.

During the year, 428 samples of designated milk have been examined by the statutory tests with the following results ;—

Class of Milk	No. Examined	Failed Methylene Blue Test	Failed Phosphate Test	Failed Turbidity Test	Number Satisfactory	% Satisfactory
Pasteurised	229	—	2	—	227	99·1
School Milk (Pasteurised) ..	68	—	—	—	68	100·0
Sterilised	17	—	—	—	17	100·0
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) ..	114	—	2	—	112	98·2
Total 1951	428	—	4	—	424	99·1
„ 1950	397	1	4	—	392	98·7

It is evident that the dairymen have carried out their obligations in an efficient manner. In the few cases of failure they have given willing co-operation in finding and correcting the fault.

ICE CREAM.

NUTRITIVE QUALITY.

To an ever increasing extent ice cream is regarded as an article of food as well as a sweet or delicacy. As with other foods, therefore, standards are desirable to assure that a reasonably nutritious product is maintained and the minimum standards of 5% fat, 10% total sugars, and 7½% non-fatty milk solids have given some meaning to the description “Ice Cream”. Whether there is an undesirable implication in reversing the description to “Cream Ices” is an open question. If, however, anyone desires to market a frozen mixture of flavoured cornflour and sugar which has been the subject of complaint in the past, he will have to find a different description for it. Such a mixture could not now be sold as “Ice Cream”.

40 samples of ice cream were examined for nutritive quality in 1951. In all cases the sugars and non-fatty milk solids were satisfactory, and only two samples failed to comply with the minimum standard of 5·0% of fat. It would appear that the manufacturers of each of these two samples had erred accidentally, and subsequent samples from these sources were satisfactory.

It is interesting to note that a large proportion of the samples contained more than twice the amount of fat prescribed as a minimum. The distribution is shown in the following table :—

Fat Content of Ice Cream :

Fat per cent	1951 No. of Samples	1950 No. of Samples
Under 5·0	2	3
5·0 — 8·0	10	12
8·0 — 10·0	12	26
Over 10·0	16	27
	—	—
	40	68
	—	—

HYGIENIC QUALITY.

148 samples of ice cream were examined for hygienic quality, and it is gratifying to note that the results show a further improvement on those in previous years. The samples are tested by a Methylene Blue Test, which indicates the presence of excessive numbers of bacteria which can only come from the use of dirty plant in manufacture, from dirty handling of the final product, or from unsatisfactory storage.

In 1949 one quarter of the samples were unsatisfactory, in 1950 one fifth, and 1951 one tenth. These results show that this testing has served a useful purpose, and it is worth noting that ice cream manufacturers have willingly co-operated with the Local Authority; it is clear that they are equally anxious to ensure that the public receive pure and wholesome ice cream. There is evidence that those engaged in the ice cream trade are now well aware that their produce is of the type on which bacteria thrive and consequently they appreciate that inadequate sterilisation of plant and excessive handling of ice cream is not permissible.

A summary of the results is given in the following table; the quality is expressed in Grades 1 to 4.

		1951	1950
		148 samples	162 samples
Satisfactory :	Grade 1	53%	36%
	„ 2	21%	30%
		} 74%	} 66%
Inferior :	„ 3	16%	14%
Unsatisfactory :	„ 4	10%	20%

SAMPLES OTHER THAN MILK NOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDARD

No.	Nature of Sample	Formal Informal Private	Nature of Offence	Observations
28	Nuts (Pre-packed) Shelled, Brazil)	I	Address of Packer inadequate	Packer to print new labels
29	Nuts (Pre-packed Almonds)	I	Address of Packer inadequate. No designation of contents	
32	Advocaat	I	Proof Spirit 28.0%, labelled "Not less than 27% proof spirit". Not Advocaat as defined by Labelling of Food Order	Withdrawn from sale.
30	Pork Sauages	I	Total meat 62.5% Def. 3.8% min. amount of meat	Caution.
191	Pork Sausages	I	Total meat 60.0% Def. 7.7% min. amount of meat	
242	Pork Sausages	I	Total meat 60.0% Def. 7.7% min. amount of meat	Caution.
291	Baking Powder	I	Available carbon dioxide 6.2% Def. 22% of min. standard	Withdrawn from sale. Caution.
328	Cake Flour, Sweetened	I	Flour portion contained only 0.35% available carbon dioxide. Def. 12% of min. standard for S.R. flour. Ingre- dients not in order of proportion by weight	Old Stock. Age not known.
531	Scone Mixture, Sweetened	I	Contaminated with live mites. Def. 50% avail- able CO ₂ . Label of- fence	Retailer destroyed stock.
335	Fizzy Quenchers	I	"Colour" omitted from list of ingredients	Label amended.
336	Choco-tabs	I	Saccharin omitted from list of ingredients	Manufacture ceased
352	Crackley Jack (no points)	I	Not exempt from Label- ling of Food Order. One ingredient desig- nated "Sweetening"— not a specific name	Caution.
423	Nut-fruta Bar	I	Not exempt from Label- ling of Food Order. Ingredients not given in order of proportion by weight	Caution.

No.	Nature of Sample	Formal Informal Private	Nature of Offence	Observations
611	Butter Drops	I	Misleading designation. Contained no Butter Fat	Caution.
373	Cream Doughnut	P	Cream filling was contam- inated with mass of jute fibres from sacking	Caution.
378	Table Jelly	I	Total sugars 59·8% Def. 5% min. amount	Caution.
500	Table Jelly	I	Total sugars 57·4% Def. 8% min. standard	
379	Table Jelly	I	Total sugars 57·5% Def. 8% min. amount	Caution.
499	Table Jelly	I	Total sugars 57·1% Def. 9% min. standard	
504	Ice Cream	I	Def. 46% min. fat	Caution.
514	Dried Sage	I	Heavy mould growth	Retailer destroyed stock.
515	Dried Parsley	I	Label offence—no weight given	Last packet of old stock.
524	Dried Sage	I	Mould growth present	Retailer destroyed stock.
566	Pork Sausages	I	Contained 120 p.p.m. SO ₂ undeclared	Caution.
583	Pork Sausages	I	Contained 190 p.p.m. SO ₂ undeclared	
584	Pork Sausages	I	Def. 4·6% minimum standard of meat	
598	Malt Vinegar	I	Def. 5% min. amount of Acetic Acid	Caution.
639	Concentrated Tomato Soup, Canned	I	Contained excessive tin (3·8 gr./lb.)	Stock surrendered to Health Dept.
640	Concentrated Tomato Soup, Canned	I	Contained excessive tin (4·2 gr./lb.)	
655	Ice Cream	I	Def. 54% min. standard of fat. Def. 24% min. standard milk S.N.F.	Caution.
656	Apples	I	Four apples—arsenic 2·9-8·3 p.p.m.	Importer and Min- istry of Health advised of the contamination.
692	Apples	F	Arsenic 2·0 p.p.m. Lead 9·0 p.p.m.	
693	Apples	F	Arsenic 5·0 p.p.m. Lead 15·0 p.p.m.	

No.	Nature of Sample	Formal Informal Private	Nature of Offence	Observations
734	Table Jelly	I	Label offence	Referred to Food Standards and Labelling Divn.
844	Table Jelly	F	Label offence	
771	Apples	I	Three apples — arsenic 1·2, 1·4, 2·4 p.p.m.	Importer advised of contamination
772	Apples	F	Arsenic 3·5 p.p.m. Lead 8·0 p.p.m.	
741	Steak and Kidney Pie	I	Misleading description, contained no kidney	Caution.
742	Steak and Kidney Pie	I	Misleading description, contained no kidney	Caution.
743	Steak and Kidney Pie	I	Misleading description, contained no kidney	Caution.
781	Lemon Curd	I	Fat 3·3% Def. 17·5% of standard	Caution.
901	Lemon Curd	F	Fat 3·3% Def. 17·5% of standard	
877	Table Jelly	I	Total sugars 50% Def. 20% minimum standard	Caution.
943	Table Jelly	I	Total sugars 56%, Def. 11% min, standard	
944	Table Jelly	F	Total sugars 54% Def. 13% min. standard	
882	Pork Dripping	P	Contained 71·5% fat. Def. 27·7% of a reasonable standard	Caution.
923	Malt Vinegar	F	Acetic Acid 2·68% Def. 33% of min. amount	Deficiency due in part to addition of water ; mainly due to decomposition. Retailer cautioned.
965	Malt Vinegar	F	Acetic Acid 2·40% Def. 40% of min. amount	
1012	Malt Vinegar	F	Acetic Acid 2·16% Def. 46% of min. amount	
1009	Lemon Curd	I	Fat 3·7% Def. 7·5% of minimum standard	Formula amended. Manufacturers cautioned.
1117	Lemon Curd	F	Fat 3·7% Def. 7·5% of minimum standard	
1118	Lemon Curd	F	Fat 3·8% Def. 5% of minimum standard	
1023	Rice	P	Contaminated with rodent excreta	Stock withdrawn from sale. Retailer cautioned.
1024	Lentils	P	Contaminated with rodent excreta	

No.	Nature of Sample	Formal Informal Private	Nature of Offence	Observations
1104	Pork Sausages	I	Total meat 47% Def. of 27% of min. standard	Retailer/Manufacturer cautioned.
1170	Pork Sausages	I	Total meat 52% Def. of 20% of min. standard	
1169	Uncooked Puff Pastry	I	Total oils and fats 21% instead of 25% required by Flour Confectionery Order 1951	Manufacturer to secure more even distribution of fat
1216	Arrowroot	I	Contained 20% corn-flour	Vendor's explanation accepted. Stock withdrawn from sale.
1373	Arrowroot	F	Contained 20% corn-flour.	
1351	Mincemeat	I	Fat 1.9% Def. 24% min. standard	Caution.
1361	Mincemeat	I	Fat 2.2% Def. 12% of minimum standard	Caution.
1570	Mincemeat	I	Fat 2.2% Def. 12% of minimum standard	
1396	Steak and Kidney Pie	I	Misleading designation. Significant amount of kidney absent	Caution.
1397	Steak and Kidney Pie	I	Misleading designation. Significant amount of kidney absent	Caution.
1442	Mixed Peel	I	Pre-packed article. Label offence. Liquid Glucose described as "Glucose" in the list of ingredients	Label amended.
1452	Mixed Peel	I	Duplicate sample. Same label offence	
1460	Mincemeat	I	Fat 2.2% Def. 12% of minimum standard	Manufacturer has undertaken to increase the fat in recipe. Caution.
1688	Mincemeat	I	Fat 2.2% Def. 12% of minimum standard	
1471	Mincemeat	I	Heavily contaminated with mould	Stock withdrawn from sale.
1475	Mixed Peel	I	Pre-packed article. No ingredients given on the label	Label amended.
1512	Pork Sausages	I	Contained 180 p.p.m. Sulphur dioxide undeclared	Caution.

No.	Nature of Sample	Formal Informal Private	Nature of Offence	Observations
1516	Pork Sausages	I	Contained 100 p.p.m. Sulphur dioxide undeclared	Caution.
1533	Mincemeat	I	Soluble Solids 63.0% Def. 3% of minimum standard	Caution.
1658	Mincemeat	I	Soluble Solids 63.0% Def. 3% of minimum standard	
1550	Lemonade	P	Contaminated with a trace of phenolic disinfectant from contaminated screw stopper	Manufacturers' washing equipment inspected and found to be efficient.
1554	Dutch White Fondant	I	Label offence. Liquid Glucose described as "Glucose" in list of ingredients	Label amended.
1627	Raspberry Fruit Wine	I	Label Offence. Contains no fruit juices. Should be designated "Raspberry Flavour". Words "Non-Alcoholic" inadequate. No address of packer	Old Stock withdrawn from sale.
1629	Blackcurrant Juice Cordial	I	Sulphur dioxide 410 p.p.m., equivalent to excess of 60 p.p.m. over the prescribed maximum	Stock withdrawn from sale.
1659	Dates	P	Infested with beetles and maggots	Stock withdrawn from sale.
	23 samples of Cake Mixture, Sponge Mixture, Pudding Mixture, etc.	I	Consisted of sweetened self-raising flour, with colour and flavouring. False description	The Food Manufacturers Federation on behalf of 17 manufacturers, are considering a more informative form of labelling for these mixtures
208	Seidlitz Powders	I	White papers deficient in weight	Stock withdrawn from sale.
210	Seidlitz Powders	I	Ditto	
1026	Seidlitz Powders	I	White papers deficient in weight. Label offence	Stock withdrawn from sale.
1032	Seidlitz Powders	I	White papers excess in weight	Stock withdrawn from sale.
1036	Seidlitz Powders	I	White papers irregular in weight	Stock withdrawn from sale.

No.	Nature of Sample	Formal Informal Private	Nature of Offence	Observations
553	Tincture of Iodine	I	Def. of 6% minimum amount of Iodine and Potassium Iodide	Stock withdrawn from sale.
561	Tincture of Iodine	I	Iodine and Potassium Iodide in excess of maximum limit	Stock withdrawn from sale.
1025	Zinc Ointment	I	Zinc Oxide 20·7%, 5·2% in excess of maximum prescribed by B.P.	Stock withdrawn from sale.
1062	Mosquito or Sting Lotion	I	Label offence. No statement of ingredients given, although recommended as a medicine	Stock withdrawn from sale for re-labelling.
1082	Calamine Lotion	I	Def. of 15·9% of correct proportion of mixed Calamine & Zinc Oxide	Stock withdrawn from sale.
1084	Calamine Lotion	I	Contained excess (19·2%) of correct proportion of mixed Calamine & Zinc Oxide and excess (20%) of the correct amount of Glycerine	Stock withdrawn from sale.
1286	Calamine Lotion	I	Def. of 13·9% of the min. amount of Calamine and Zinc Oxide	Caution.

ADULTERATED AND UNSATISFACTORY SAMPLES.

SAUSAGES. Of the 28 samples examined, 6 samples were deficient in meat. Four manufacturers were involved and in two cases it was clear that the deficiencies were due to measuring the rusk and water by volume in a rough and ready manner.

It is strange that all butchers carefully weigh the meat, but only a few appreciate the necessity to weigh the rusk, water and seasoning with the same care, in order to produce a standard quality of sausage.

INSECTICIDE SPRAY ON FRUIT. Five samples of apples were found to be contaminated with arsenic and/or lead. All the samples were Italian imports, and these results were obtained at the time when the Ministry of Food were informing the Italian Embassy that they were running a risk of having the fruit trade stopped. In previous years Italian pears have been found to be similarly contaminated; the source is lead arsenate which is used as an insecticidal spray, and the remedy is efficient cleansing prior to exporting the fruit.

LEMON CURD. A minimum standard of fat (not less than 4·0%) is prescribed for lemon curd. The products of two manufacturers were found to contain only 3·3% and 3·7%. In one case it was explained that the sample was probably part of an experimental batch which should not have been

sold. In the other case it was frankly admitted that the manufacturer had used cake margarine and had omitted to allow for the fact that the margarine contained 15% water. The formula was immediately revised.

MINCEMEAT. Of the 19 samples of mincemeat which have been examined, five were deficient in fat, two were deficient in soluble solids (mainly sugar) and one was mouldy. The samples which were deficient in fat were the product of three manufacturers, and from the correspondence it would appear that they had not appreciated the necessity to check the fat content of the raw materials, nor appreciated the necessity for efficient mixing of the ingredients. The law requires that each jar of mincemeat shall contain 2.5 parts of fat in 100 parts of mincemeat. In order to comply with the requirements the manufacturer must exercise skill, for he must mix the ingredients efficiently, but not so much as to break down the ingredients into an unattractive porridge-like mass.

The deficiency of soluble solids in two samples of the same make was attributed to the fact that the most suitable type of apple for the purpose was unobtainable and a substitute had been used. The manufacturer undertook to institute a more extensive system of checking the quality of his product.

TABLE JELLY. Three brands of Table Jelly were found to contain less than 63% of total sugars which is prescribed as a minimum. The manufacturers investigated and one of them found that the formula did not allow any margin for factory errors; another found that his supplies of imported fondant contained varying proportions of sugar. In each case steps were taken to ensure the standard quality in all future batches. In the third case the manufacturer blamed the Ministry of Food for not granting him the allocation of ingredients which he desired. This is an absurd excuse for marketing an article of inferior quality. At the time in question any manufacturer could readily sell as many jellies as he could make and few, if any, would consider the allocations of the Ministry adequate.

STEAK AND KIDNEY PIE. In five cases, pies, which were labelled "steak and kidney", contained no significant amount of kidney. In four instances the retailer was at fault because the invoices described them as "pies" or "meat pies" or "steak pies". As a result of these samples one large multiple firm has withdrawn all printed display tickets from branch shops until such time as true steak and kidney pies can be marketed. In the fifth case the retailer was also the manufacturer. He admitted that he could not always include kidney because it was not always available, and, in fact, no kidney was available on the day the sample was taken.

MALT VINEGAR. Two samples of malt vinegar were deficient in acetic acid and the retailers were cautioned. The samples consisted of two different brands of cask vinegar and each manufacturer was able to prove that every precaution was taken to ensure that the bulk supply was of a satisfactory quality. One retailer who stated that he was a newcomer to the trade admitted that he had added some water. He claimed that he had been informed that it was the general practice to draw off three or four pints of vinegar from a cask and refill with water. The sample contained only 2.76% acetic acid, so that the deficiency found in the sample was considerably more than that due to the addition of three or four pints of water. Subsequent experiments proved that the vinegar was contaminated with bacteria and/or moulds, which were responsible for most of the deterioration in strength.

Each year analytical results of samples of malt vinegar have given support to the suggestion that loss of acidity may be due to biological action

rather than to the addition of water. Manufacturers of vinegar are well aware that malt vinegar in cask is a perishable article ; they recognise that precautions against contamination from bacteria and moulds must be taken, and it is for this reason that manufacturers now tend to encourage the sale of pre-packed bottled vinegar which has been pasteurised. Few retailers, however, are aware that cask vinegar requires the same careful attention which a publican gives to casked beer, and they contaminate the vinegar by failing to sterilise the tap and/or by leaving the vent peg open. The risk of contamination is extremely high when the retailer also stocks fruit and vegetables.

The law requires the retailer to observe conditions during storage which will provide the consumer with an article which is satisfactory at the time of sale, and proceedings could be taken against a retailer who has sold an article which is not the quality demanded by the purchaser. It would appear, however, that a more reasonable approach to this problem is by education rather than legal proceedings.

I have made certain suggestions to the Vinegar Brewers' Federation, who are vitally interested in this matter. In due course I hope that the deliberations of the Federation will result in an educational policy for the vinegar trade which will provide further protection of the consumer against the sale of inferior casked vinegar which has deteriorated during storage.

PASTRY. Under a Maximum Price Control Order uncooked pastry must contain not less than 25% of fat. A sample of the puff pastry sold by a local bakery contained only 21% of fat, and this result astonished the manufacturer, who was quite certain that his formula was designed to satisfy the requirements of the Order. Subsequent experiments showed that the prolonged rolling necessary to obtain the alternate layers of fat and dough which are essential in puff pastry, compressed the fat to the outside edges of the batch of dough, leaving the centre of the batch deficient in fat. It is clear that if all the $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. packages which are sold retail are to satisfy this minimum standard of fat, the formula for a batch of 20 or 30 lbs. must provide a generous excess.

LABEL OFFENCES.

CAKE (OR PUDDING) MIXTURE. In 1951 objection was taken to the description Cake Mixture, Sponge Mixture and Pudding Mixture for articles which carry recipes instructing the purchaser to add eggs and/or fat. All these samples consisted of sweetened self-raising flour with colour and flavouring. They form a good basis for making a cake, but they are not entitled to the unqualified description "Cake (or Pudding) Mixture".

The unqualified description "Cake Mixture" implies that the article will make a cake and it is false when it is applied to a mixture which requires the addition of nutritious ingredients by the purchaser. There are a few fully prepared mixtures on the market which do contain all the necessary ingredients for making a cake with the addition of water. These articles are true cake mixtures. These complete mixes enjoy a wide sale in the U.S.A., and it is to be presumed that when the supply of raw materials permits, they will be marketed in quantity in this country.

Consequently, I have suggested that now is the time to encourage the adoption of an informative label for the various forms of cake and pudding mixtures—one which will enable the purchaser to see at a glance whether she is expected to provide her own eggs and/or fat in order to produce the attractive article depicted on the carton,

All the 17 different manufacturers who are concerned with these samples have referred the matter to the Food Manufacturers' Federation, who have, in turn, received my arguments and criticisms with interest and courtesy.

The Federation have stated that they are in entire accord with all responsible authorities as to the necessity for properly informative labelling of foodstuffs.

Some constructive suggestions have been submitted to the Federation and in due course it is hoped that agreement between all the parties concerned will lead to a new Code of Practice for Flour and Cake Mixtures.

ADVOCAT. It is a contravention of the Labelling of Food Order to use the designation "Advocat" for a mixture of spirits, egg and sugar which contains less than 30% proof spirit. One sample so designated was labelled "not less than 27 per cent proof spirit" and it actually contained 28%. This article was not entitled to the designation "Advocat" and all stocks were withdrawn from sale.

The Labelling of Food Order also requires all pre-packed foods to be labelled with the name and address of the packer, the common or usual name of the contents, and a list of ingredients, using specific names, in the order of greatest proportion by weight. Ten samples were improperly labelled in one or more of these respects—two samples of nuts (no address of packer, no designation of contents); Fizzy Quenchers, Choco Tablets and Mixed Peel (incomplete list of ingredients); Crackley Jack, Mixed Peel and Dutch White Fondant (ingredients not stated in specific terms); Nut-fruta Bar (ingredients not in order of proportion by weight).

A sample of "Raspberry Fruit Wine" failed to conform with certain rules of labelling to which the manufacturers of Soft Drinks have agreed. The sample contained no raspberry juice and it should have been labelled "Raspberry Flavour"; in addition the words "Non-Alcoholic" were of inadequate size. The sample was old stock—it was probably labelled prior to the introduction of the Code of Practice.

TABLE JELLIES. The cartons of some Table Jellies (imported from Eire) were labelled with a claim that they contained pure glucose. Analysis indicated that there was no added glucose present in two samples. In correspondence the manufacturer repeatedly made vague and unsupported assertions that he used glucose as an ingredient, but he declined to test a sample which was sent to him. The correspondence was sufficiently unsatisfactory to justify proceedings in court, but such proceedings could only be taken against the importer, who was not the culprit—the importer had, in fact, ceased to deal with this product.

DRUGS.

98 samples of drugs and medicinal preparations were examined during the year 1951 and 12 samples (12.3%) failed to satisfy the requirements of legislation.

CALAMINE LOTION. Eight samples of Calamine Lotion were examined and three samples were unsatisfactory. The ingredients of this preparation settle rapidly and extreme care is necessary when pre-packed bottles are being filled or a small quantity is being dispensed. Two samples represented two different batches made by a retail pharmacist. One was deficient of 13.9% of the correct proportions of Calamine and Zinc Oxide, and the other contained an excess of 19.2% of the correct proportions, together with an excess of 20% of the correct proportion of Glycerine. The third sample

was pre-packed by a manufacturing chemist and it was deficient of 15·9% of the prescribed amount of Calamine and Zinc Oxide. A deviation of 10% of the prescribed quantities of the B.P. is the maximum which can be regarded as satisfactory.

SEIDLITZ POWDERS. Five out of eleven samples were unsatisfactory, due to irregular weight of the white papers. In two cases damp storage conditions was a likely explanation; in two others more frequent checks of the weights delivered by the machine appeared to be indicated.

TINCTURE OF IODINE. Two samples failed to conform to the B.P. standards for this preparation. One sample was deficient of 6% of the minimum amount of Iodine and Potassium Iodide; the stock was withdrawn from sale. The second sample contained both ingredients in excess (21% and 25% of the maximum limit), probably due to evaporation of the alcohol through an ill-fitting stopper. Bottles to be used for volatile medicinal preparations must be selected with care. Faulty bottle moulds may produce uneven tops which cannot be sealed efficiently by a screw cap and rubber wad, and deterioration inevitably follows on storage.

MOSQUITO AND STING LOTION. A sample of Mosquito Lotion was labelled with the statement "For Removing Irritation caused by the Bites of Gnats, Mosquitoes, Flies, etc.". In my opinion these words are calculated to lead to the use of the preparation for the prevention or treatment of an injury affecting the human body, namely, the irritation caused by bites of gnats, etc. The Pharmaceutical Society supported this view and the preparation was withdrawn from sale in order to provide a label which discloses the composition as required by Section 11 of the Pharmacy and Medicines Act 1941.

SWIMMING BATH WATER.

During the summer season frequent examinations were made on the swimming and paddling pools at Southsea Castle, Hilsea and Park Road. Chemical and bacteriological tests have provided the information required to control the plant efficiently and to ensure the maximum purity of the water at all times. In all the Pools chlorine is used to maintain a high hygienic quality.

CITY WATER SUPPLY.

Frequent examinations of the City water have confirmed that the bacteriological quality of the water is of the highest standard. During the year the chlorination has been carefully controlled and has shown little variation from the desirable figure of 0·1 p.p.m.

From a chemical point of view there has been no variation from the consistent chemical composition of previous years and all samples have been found to be pure and wholesome.

Further examples of faulty plumbing have been noted in 1951, resulting in traces of copper contamination in the water supply from domestic taps. The copper contamination was heaviest in the first-drawn water which had stood in the pipes over-night. This water was usually used for making morning tea and resulted in a green deposit in the hardness scale of the kettle. Galvanic action from dissimilar metals in the plumbing system appeared to be the explanation. In one case it was suspected that the assortment of electrical equipment which was earthed to the water pipe might be responsible, but the copper contamination persisted after all this earthing had been disconnected.

FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT 1926.

For a number of years this Act has not been implemented in Portsmouth because the Department has been inadequately staffed. The purpose of this legislation is to provide the purchaser with a statement of the composition of a fertiliser or feeding stuff at the time of sale, so that he may decide for himself whether the article is worth the price charged. In the case of fertilisers, the proportion of nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash must be guaranteed within very close limits.

During the year 18 samples of fertilisers were examined, viz., bone meal 3, dried blood 2, sulphate of ammonia 4, super phosphate 2, hot manure 1, nitrate of soda 2, sulphate of potash 1, compound fertiliser 1, garden lime 2.

One sample of pre-packed garden lime was deficient in calcium hydroxide. It contained 65·7%, whereas 85% was guaranteed. The manufacturer claimed that the sample had deteriorated during storage by the retailer and analysis confirmed that this was a possible explanation.

In four samples slight discrepancies from the guarantee were found, but they were not serious and were probably due to inadequate mixing. The discrepancies were, however, more than the law permits.

It was not surprising to find that a number of retailers of fertilisers were unaware of their obligations under this Act, and in eight cases no statutory statement was offered at the time of sale. The retailers have willingly co-operated and have taken steps to comply in the future.

ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY COUNCIL.

199 samples were examined in 1951 for the Isle of Wight County Council: 181 under the Food and Drugs Act, 16 under the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, and two miscellaneous samples.

Under the Food and Drugs Act, 24 samples were reported to be unsatisfactory (12·1%).

Of 43 samples of Milk, 7 samples were adulterated with water, 3 were deficient in milk fat and 8 were of inferior quality, due to the condition of the cows.

Proceedings were taken in respect of two cases of added water and fines of £15 and £10 were imposed for 7% and 11% of water respectively.

Three Table Jellies were unsatisfactory; two were deficient in sugar and one had inferior setting properties.

The manufacturer of two samples of Ice Cream, which contained only 3·1% and 3·3% of fat, was fined £5, and the manufacturer of ice cream containing only 2·9% of fat was fined £1. A caution was administered in the case of a sample with 4·7% of fat.

A sample of pre-packed Cheese Spread was considered to contain 9·7% of water in excess of a reasonable amount. In the absence of a legal standard the result was forwarded to the Ministry of Food for information.

Four samples of sausages were examined; only one was found to be deficient in meat. It contained 59% meat instead of 65, and investigation indicated that the deficiency was due to a bona fide mistake. A sample of Jam was deficient in soluble solids (sugars), and a sample of canned Cherries was unpalatable and astringent, due to the presence of excessive iron salts derived from the can.

Two drugs were unsatisfactory. In a bottle of Parrish's Chemical Food nearly one-third of the iron was precipitated in an insoluble form, which would have no therapeutic value, and a bottle of Glycerine and Honey was found to contain only one-half of the glycerine claimed on the label.

Objection was taken to the labels of five samples. An Orange Flavoured Wine was provided with a label which used inconspicuous type for the words "Flavoured" and "Non-alcoholic", contrary to the Code of Practice accepted by the Soft Drinks manufacturers. The designation "Lemon Butter and Honey Spread" was regarded as unsatisfactory for an article which contained no butter. A proprietary brand of laxative made from Figs and Senna was labelled "Compound Syrup of Figs", which is the official name for a standardised preparation of the B.P.C. ; the sample was not made in accordance with the official formula. Samples of "Crystallised Fruits" and "Golden Crunch Bar" failed to use specific names in the list of ingredients on the labels, contrary to the requirements of the Labelling of Food Order.

Samples submitted under the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act numbered 16, of which 10 were unsatisfactory ; one was superior to the guaranteed quality; four were deficient to a small extent in one or more ingredients ; one was grossly deficient and was withdrawn from sale ; one failed to give the appropriate guarantee in the prescribed form ; three failed to give the statutory guarantee at the time of purchase.

BOROUGH OF GOSPORT.

145 samples were submitted by the Borough of Gosport under the Food and Drugs Act. Eleven samples were unsatisfactory (7·6%).

Only two samples of milk out of the 44 samples which were examined failed to conform to a satisfactory standard of quality. None contained added water. One sample was inferior, due to the condition of the cows, and one sample was slightly deficient in fat. This was a sample of Pasteurised Milk, and the explanation was probably due to mixing a large proportion of inferior morning milk with a smaller quantity of richer evening milk prior to pasteurisation.

A sample of "Steak and Kidney Pie" contained no kidney ; the description was changed to Meat Pie. One sample of Pork Sausages contained 59% of meat instead of 65%, and the manufacturer was cautioned.

A sample of pre-packed Mineral Oil purchased from a grocer's shop was presumably offered as a substitute for cooking oil, although the label avoided making any suggestion as to the use of the article. It was inadequately refined and consequently unsuitable for use as either food or drug. It was withdrawn from sale. A sample of Sponge Mixture was infested with live insects.

Three labels were unsatisfactory. A sample of Essence of Rennet failed to give the statutory list of ingredients ; a White Fondant used the description "Glucose", which is not a specific description, for one of the ingredients. A sample of "Sponge Mix" was not a complete mixture, so that a truly informative description demanded some indication that eggs were required to make a sponge cake from the mixture.

